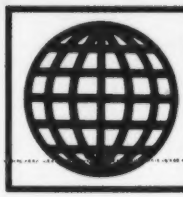

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Near East & South Asia

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Inter-Arab Affairs

SPA Denies Rumors on Lebanese Meeting Venue

LD2906193689 Riyadh SPA in Arabic
1845 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Riyadh, 29 Jun (SPA)—In view of what has been reported recently by some of the Lebanese media, which quoted Lebanese officials as saying that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has called upon the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies to convene in the Kingdom, a responsible source told SPA today: "There is no truth in this news as far as the identification of a specific place for the meeting of the Lebanese legislative assembly is concerned."

The source added: The text of the final communique issued by the tripartite committee in Oran was clear, and its meaning was sincere when its said: "In the light of the second and decisive tour of contacts which will be undertaken by the foreign ministers a call will be made for the Lebanese parliamentarians to meet outside Lebanon, in a place of their choice, in order to consider and prepare a charter of national reconciliation."

In concluding its statement the source said: "In clarifying this fact, the Kingdom would like the Lebanese officials and media to depend on what is issued by the Kingdom through its official organs without attributing to it the speculations of others."

Palestinian Affairs

Khalaf Interviewed on Election, U.S., USSR

JN2806152789 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic
27 Jun 89 p 20

[Interview with Fatah's second-in-command Salah Khalaf by Rashid Khashshanah in Tunis—date not given]

[Text] [Khashshanah] How do you react to 'Ezra Weizman's suggestion that a three-way meeting comprising Yitzhaq Shamir, King Husayn, and Yasir 'Arafat be held in Cairo?

[Khalaf] Weizman has taken a moderate line since Camp David, but this is more in the nature of personal dreams and wishes finding expression in his statements. I do not think a man like Shamir will go for dialogue or negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. He is a small Begin. Begin managed to overcome his fanaticism when he signed a peace with Egypt and opted for peace, but Shamir lacks Begin's strength and desire for peace. We view Weizman's statements as indicative of personal rather than real intentions. However, it emerged from recent meetings between Palestinian delegations and Israeli figures that an Israeli trend recognizing Palestinian rights is taking shape and advocating direct talks with the PLO instead of using the American channel. This trend is restricted and has no existence at the decisionmaking level. In common with peace movements, its adherents are quite numerous, but they are not decisionmakers. It is unfortunate that decisionmaking has moved to the Likud. Even the Labor Party is split into two wings—one represented by ministers who are closer to the Likud line in their approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict than to peace while the other, led by Shim'on Peres, is weak. In what way does Peres differ from Shamir in his thinking and stands? Peres says no to the PLO and to the Palestinian state. As for the international conference, he speaks about it in extremely shy terms. The Labor Party has withdrawn from the Socialist International because it invited the PLO to its most recent congress as an osbserver. How will it be possible then for us to call this party more progressive or leftist than the Likud?

[Khashshanah] As'ad al-Saftawi—a well known Palestinian nationalist who recently met with Rabin—proposed an 11-point Palestinian peace plan. As'ad is a well known Fatah personage. What are the outlines of this plan, and does it reflect the views of the [Fatah] leadership?

[Khalaf] Incidentally, As'ad and I went to the same school in the Gaza Strip in the fifties. His patriotism is beyond question. I think the ideas he put forward may have been prompted by despair on his part that peace was forthcoming and by the failure of the Israelis to recognize our rights. He proposed a separation between the interim period—the elections—and the final stage—the comprehensive solution. I think we are not in agreement with this line since any separation will only advance Israel's interests. We will accept the kind of eelctions that will lead to negotiations with the PLO within the framework of the international conference in the context of a final settlement. If we draw a line between an interim and final phases we will have fallen in the trap set for us by Israel. In any case, As'ad put his blueprint forward and requested that he be allowed to travel to Egypt to confer with some of our brothers on his plan before officially proposing it. Asa'd is a man of his word, and I do not think that he will break away from consensus.

[Khashshanah] Is the reason the third round of the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue stumbled the dispute over distinguishing between the elections as a transitional stage and the comprehensive solution as a final stage? To what extent will the essential dispute over the concept of the mechanism to realize peace affect the continuation of the dialogue itself?

[Khalaf] The U.S.-Palestinian dialogue continues and will continue. It will not stop. However, there is an essential dispute. The Americans are moving very slowly, step by step. Perhaps they realize that they have various issues to confront in the world, including the Middle East question. Apart from that, it is not high on the international list of priorities. Therefore, they stopped with the idea of elections in the occupied territories. They also considered it the beginning. We

have not at any time rejected elections. However, we say that there should be elections for a specific purpose, which is to negotiate over the final stage or settlement. If we agree over this settlement, we can specify what will happen during the coming 2 or 3 years, that is the elections. Only within this framework could I understand the presence of a transitional period lasting 1 or 2 years on condition that the third year be the year of the final solution.

[Khashshanah] Which final solution?

[Khalaf] The State of Palestine. However, it is clear that this solution is blocked. And if it is rejected, what is left for us to accept? Therefore, we say that the purpose of proposing such a solution is for the PLO to sign a surrender to Israel. Proceeding from this, the Americans are complicating matters and dealing with them very sluggishly. They discuss elections without discussing the second stage. Then they reach the second stage without defining the nature of the third stage, and so on. This method might be suitable for a superpower discussing a problem at the other end of the world, but it is not appropriate for our people. This is where the difference lies between our thinking and theirs. However, we are trying not to waste any opportunity to find the entrance to peace. The issue has continued for too long, and our people have carried many burdens. However, they do not like to give in. They accepted all the political solutions that crystallized during the last Palestine National Council [PNC] session in Algiers on the basis that this will lead to a just settlement soon. However, the Israelis are stubborn despite everything we offered. They do not want to give an inch. They are supported by the United States. We are not demanding a state of war between Israel and the United or that the Americans be biasd in our favor; however, we are asking for neutrality in treatment.

[Khashshanah] To what extent was Palestinian-Soviet coordination a success in benefiting from the discussions between the U.S. and Soviet experts in Washington?

[Khalaf] There is a joint Palestinian-Soviet committee that meets according to the wishes of the two sides or at periodic sessions. The committee went to Moscow actually before these talks and met with the Soviets. What became clear once again is that the Soviets are very close to our stand. However, they are trying to find points of agreement with the Americans as well. At any rate, we feel that the Soviets are seeking a solution quickly, which is the opposite of the slow U.S. pace. They are discussing things with them from the same perspective that we are.

[Khashshanah] Have they put you in the picture concerning the atmosphere of the discussions in Washington and informed you of what took place in them?

[Khalaf] We did not get any intricate details. However, on the whole, the two sides still have issues that are suspended and open for discussion.

[Khashshanah] But Soviet policy has lately been moving toward Israel diplomatically and politically, even through noticeably increasing the number of Jewish emigrants. Do you not believe that the policy of international detente and settling regional disputes may lead to sacrificing the Palestine question?

[Khalaf] [Laughing] Things have not gone that far yet. However, we certainly have to take into consideration that detente over regional issues makes it incumbent on both sides to offer concessions. These concessions as a whole will be at the expense of various parties. So far, there are clear facts regarding the Soviet position, which has unchanging constants based on a comprehensive settlement and an international conference based on international legitimcy and the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, especially their right to an independent state. We hope these constants will continue to be so.

[Khashshanah] It seems that the Soviets have moved closer to the U.S. stand in the game of mutual concessions rather than the other way around?

[Khalaf] The Americans also consider themselves to have offered a concession when they opened a direct, official dialogue with the PLO. Unfortunately, things are relative.

[Khashshanah] Fatah's representative in Lebanon announced that 150 Palestinian detainees have been released from Syrian jails. Is this the beginning of a new chapter in Syrian-Palestinian relations and a preparation for releasing the other 4,000 detainees?

[Khalaf] We welcomed this move and considered it a positive initiative. Another group of detainees will be released before 'Id al-Adha. This is psychologically relieving for both sides, so our talks with the Syrians will be held in a more fraternal, conciliatory atmosphere. We hope none of our people will remain detained in Syria. This will boost the atmosphere of confidence and relations and allow the next meetings to take place in a casual, comfortable atmosphere. Thus the dialogue can move to the point at which we will be able to resume normal relations with Syria.

[Khashshanah] Why has the mediation started some time ago by Algerian Foreign Minister Boualem Bessaieh stumbled?

[Khalaf] So far, there is nothing to disrupt the dialogue. The meetings we agreed over have taken place as scheduled. Perhaps this is what is unnatural: Only meetings arranged in advance are taking place. Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid's move took place when our contacts with the Syrians were suspended. Thanks to the Algerian mediation, two meetings were held in Casablanca and Harare between Faruq al-Shar' and Abu-al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], Abu-al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd-al-Hamid], and Jamal al-Surani. The Harare meeting prepared for the Casablanca meeting between Abu-'Ammar [Yasir

'Arafat] and President al-Asad. In turn, this meeting paved the way for releasing the group of detainees. We hope serious dialogue with the Syrians will begin during the next 2 months.

[Khashshanah] What will this dialogue deal with?

[Khalaf] The first issue is that of the detainees. Afterward, we will discuss how to resume coordination and dialogue over political issues related to the future of the conflict in the region.

[Khashshanah] And Syria will invite an official Palestinian delegation to visit Damascus?

[Khalaf] That is correct.

[Khashshanah] Do you think there is now a common ground between the Syrian and Palestinian stands conducive to a reconciliation?

[Khalaf] I believe that such a common ground has not been absent in any stage. We often differ with Syria and then come to terms with it; we quarrel and then make peace. Our relations with Syria since 1965 have always been marked by disagreement and agreement, but there has been no estrangement. The only estrangement was after the camps war. The matter then was not a mere difference but a real estrangement. With the martyrdom of Abu-Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and the visit a senior [Palestinian] delegation paid to Damascus, estrangement came to an end. However, the ice was broken but differences were not. Now that meetings have been held in Harare and Casablanca, there is a chance to discuss differences in a healthy atmosphere, and I think that the coming meetings will be positive.

[Khashshanah] Is this optimism due to the new Syrian language after 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam had received the leaders of the Salvation Front and advised them to return to the organization?

[Khalaf] I do not know the details of this matter, but I heard talk to this effect. I do not know what happened during the meeting. What is important is that Syria is now trying to pave the way for a serious dialogue with the PLO. I am sure about this, and we are ready for that although there are Palestinian and Syrian parties that do not seek dialogue or reconciliation. We here and there should overcome these parties. We say that the right path is that of resuming both relations and dialogue because we need Syria and Syria needs us. If we want to call every state to account for what it did, we will then have estrangement with most Arab states.

[Khashshanah] The Fatah movement is preparing for its fifth congress. There has been talk about this congress for over 1 year, but it continues to be postponed. What are the reasons of this postponement?

[Khalaf] Every time a date is fixed for the congress, events and new developments postpone it. We were eager to hold our congress in a healthy atmosphere without being disturbed by anything. The intifadah, for instance, is a major event. During the latest Revolutionary Council meetings, we found that a new political situation had emerged following the PNC session. The bylaws were more than 9 years old, and some of the movement's conditions needed adjustment. There emerged the need for more democracy and development of the conditions of the leadership—the central committee, the Revolutionary Council, the general congress, and the regions. All these leading bodies require a readjustment of their situation. This is part of our national work and political activity. There was a suggestion to hold the congress by a unanimous vote from the Revolutionary Council members. If we wait for propitious circumstances, thet might not come because the international conference is still far away. Therefore, we decided to hold it soon, that is, early next month. We hope it will be the congress of construction and that it will open new horizons for Fatah, which upheld the issue in the most difficult and most complicated circumstances.

[Khashshanah] The observer following Palestinian affairs since 1982-83 notices a move of the decisionmaking process from the Fatah Central Committee to the PLO Executive Committee. Do you believe that the forthcoming congress will restore the reins of initiative into Fatah hands?

[Khalaf] Theoritically speaking, this might be true. The decisions representing Palestinian legitimacy must be issued by the PLO Executive Committee. However, we would like to say that our representatives within the PLO Executive Committee, who are not merely numbers beginning with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Abu-'Ammar and ending with Foreign Minister Abu-al-Lutf and Abu-Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], express our policy as well as the opinions of the central committee. If there is a fault here, it is between these three figures and the central committee and not between the central committee and the PLO Executive Committee, as decisions must be issued by the PLO Executive Committee, because it is the leadership of the Palestinian people. However, it is presumed that all issues are settled by the central committee before the relevant decisions are made by the Executive Committee. This sometimes happens and other times fails to happen for a simple reason—namely, political decisions cannot be made and implemented if the issues tackled by these decisions have not already been settled by the central committee.

As for other decisions—that is, ordinary decisions such as appointments, travel, and even decisions on political issues—they are not tackled by these brothers in their capacity as central committee members but as PLO Executive Committee members, because we respect and have faith in institutions. However, the body of the Fatah movement has become flabby on all levels. Hence, it needs a reawakening and courageous organizational and political

decisions. In a word, its leadership needs new blood because "we have become old" and new leaders and generations must take their proper positions and places. Otherwise, we will be like those sitting at the helm of power, yet preventing anybody from approaching that helm. The Fatah Central Committee has so far offered nine martyrs. Look! Some of their pictures are hanging on the wall. I believe that the importance of the forthcoming congress rests in the fact that it will restore to Fatah its weight as the mainstream faction shouldering its responsibilities within the PLO and the PLO leadership.

[Khashshanah] There are some who say that the central committee has been divided into two factions since the martyrdom of Abu-Jihad and that it cannot decide on issues. They also say that this is the reason behind the committee's weakness.

[Khalaf] If you are referring to differing opinions within the central committee, I would like to say that there are 10 viewpoints: "The reference is to the 10 members of the central committee." History tells us that we have embraced, within the framework of the central committee, democratic traditions and openly aired our differences. We did not hide our differences on the Amman agreement. It is true that we were a minority opposing this agreement. However, we managed to raise our voices and thus bring about the abrogation of that agreement.

Perhaps, the problem is that we have been embracing democratic traditions more than we should. The room given for the minority to defend its opinions is what spared us the stigma of dissension. When one is not allowed to defend his opinions publicly, he will dissent. That is why we have not been plagued by dissension, which has undermined or been fatal to other movements.

[Khashshanah] And the dissent within Fatah?

[Khalaf] The trouble with the dissidents was that they thought they could make themselves a substitute and so they failed, especially since they threw themselves in the laps of some Arab regimes. We did not mind their raising slogans different from ours. They could have been far stronger had they expressed their opposition from within the PLO. But they tried to stage a quick coup with the result that they were initially embraced by the people as a novelty, but it turned out to be void of any substance and consequently collapsed. As for how things stand within Fatah now, undoubtedly there are differences and problems. The congress, however, is not the only forum for resolving them. The new leadership and the new blood as well as the new political and organizational foundations we are going to lay will enable us to say that there is something new.

[Khashshanah] We noticed at the last PNC in Algiers that opposition came mostly from Fatah. Do you expect this opposition to have a role in the Congress?

[Khalaf] It will be absolutely free to express itself as long as it remains within the PLO. We give unrestricted freedom of expression to all the PNC members—so much so that we have been accused of being too democratic. As long as all of us are patriotic, there is no harm if there are different trends. It is to the credit of Fatah that it admits of all these trends. Otherwise, we would have had opened the way for different parties within Fatah. Then a hundred parties would have broken away from the group. Whatever our differences on tactics and ideas we remain substantially in agreement.

[Khashshanah] And how are you going to fill vacancies in the central committee of Fatah?

[Khalaf] By elections—another plus for Fatah. We began the election process with the third congress, and the experiment has proved a success. We looked at this point at the Revolutionary Council's meeings and made a decision. We deliberately let the 15 elected members outnumber the 3 appointed ones on the gounds that there are some qualified people who do not wish to contest elections. We are a far-flung movement; there are cadres who cannot come for the congress—be it from the occupied land or previously from Jordan. And now there are obstacles; we have problems in Lebanon and in Syria well as in Amman. That is why we resort to selection by appointment after we gain clearance from the congress. As for the central committee, the new members are chosen by ballot. We now need five and possibly eight members for the central committee. We need a higher number for the Revolutionary Council. On the table now is a proposal that we create a general council. This and other proposals will be brought up. The majority of those eligible to join debate and command structures are currently jailed. So we thought it fit to create this formula to ensure their affiliation to a commanding body.

[Khashshanah] Will the central committee be raised from 15 to 18 members?

[Khalaf] This is still to be decided. The bylaws, however, provide for only 15. The congress is due to decide on this proposal.

PLO's Milhim on Developing Dialogue with U.S.

PM3006082689 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 26 Jun 89 p 18

[Report on interview with PLO Executive Committee member Muhammad Milhim by Faysal al-Shubul in Amman; date not given]

[Excerpts] PLO Executive Committee member Muhammad Milhim has announced that the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue has expanded and is no longer confined to the "Tunis meetings." He pointed out that the diplomatic meetings aimed at achieving peace are often not announced to avoid jeopardizing peace efforts, especially since Israel does not want peace to be achieved.

Before leaving Amman to attend the PLO Executive Committee meetings in Tunis, Milhim said in an interview with AL-TADAMUN that "the resolutions of the extraordinary Arab summit conference held recently in Casablanca will help to raise the level of the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue in terms of both representation and seriousness." He pointed out that the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue is conducted in many locations and at various levels, and actually reached Washington itself, when a dialogue took place between Palestine National Council [PNC] members and U.S. senators.

He expressed his hope that the dialogue would be upgraded to include the participation of both George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker, emphasizing that the attainment of such a level is subject to the international position—especially that of the two superpowers and to their seriousness in handling the burning world issues.

With regard to the most the recent Arab summit's most significant contributions to the Palestinian cause, Milhim said: In addition to material support, it provided political support for the PNC political approach adopted in Algiers, which Shamir, Rabin, and others considered an 'Arafat rather than a Palestinian initiative. So the Arab summit responded that the initiative was not only Palestinian, but Arab as well. None of the Arab leaders voiced any reservations about that strategy. That was the dilemma that Shamir faced. [passage omitted]

Shamir's initiative stemmed from the critical position in which he found himself as a result of of the intifadah [uprising]. This is why he included in it a proposal for holding elections in the occupied Arab territories—an attractive phrase that fascinates the world public, especially in the United States.

Shamir, and Begin before him, were the first to reject the idea of holding municipal elections in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip—the idea proposed by the PLO since 1980 and which, above all, is not political in nature. So how can Shamir backtrack so easily and call for elections that are entirely political in nature?

Shamir cannot fool the Palestinian people and the world. Despite this, we have said that we are not against the elections. But since he proposed them as a political method, then there must be a democratic atmosphere in order for them to be held.

To return to the Arab summit: The political resolution it adopted espousing the Palestinian political approach has closed all doors in Israel's face. At the outset Israel considered it a mere tactic, but it has become an Arab strategy. Our people have no option but to escalate the intifadah, which has met with escalating Israeli repressive measures since its outbreak. [passage omitted]

Concluding his interview, Milhim said: The only obstacles to international moves to achieve peace in the Middle East are Israel and part of the U.S. Administration, and in this context I recall the U.S. secretary of state's recent speech confirming this fact.

'Abd-Rabbuh on U.S.-Soviet Washington Meeting

JN2906175089 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic
28 Jun 89 pp 1, 13

[By Fathi al-Barqawi]

[Text] Tunis—PLO Executive Committee member Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh has revealed the contents of the meeting that was recently held between U.S.-Soviet experts delegations in Washington.

In an exclusive statement to AL-BAYAN, 'Abd-Rabbuh said that the Kremlin has expressed support for the elections concept within the framework of a comprehensive peace plan and that it stressed the need to link these elections to a final solution based on self-determination and full Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967.

The PLO Executive Committee member affirmed that the information the Palestinian side has on the Washington meeting indicates that the Kremlin and the White House still have differences on some issues.

He pointed out that the USSR believes that preparation for the international conference is a vital and urgent issue and that any negotiations or efforts should basically be based on actual recognition of that the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people within the framework of this process.

'Abd-Rabbuh added that Moscow has continued to stress that the only sound basis for a just peace is the Palestinian peace initiative, which is based on the resolutions of the international legitimacy.

However, the Palestinian official pointed out that there is a flexible and practical Soviet policy regarding the methods and forms that would lead to a just settlement. He explained that Moscow has proposed a group of ideas, including the holding of Palestinian-Israeli meetings and preparatory meetings on the level of the UN Security Council's five permanent member states.

The PLO Executive Committee member denied the existence of any differences, even tactical differences, between the PLO and the USSR. He pointed out that contacts are continuing between the two sides.

Cited on Elections Plan

NC2906182889 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1715 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 29 Jun (WAM)—A Palestinian official has once again denied that the PLO had accepted a modified version of the plan of enemy Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin concerning elections in the occupied territories.

Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the Palestinian delegation holding contacts with the United States, said that during its talks with the United States the PLO made it clear that, prior to discussing practical and detailed measures for the elections, the principles on which a settlement will be based must be laid down and all the parties concerned should approve that settlement.

In an interview with AL-BAYAN newspaper, 'Abd-Rabbuh said that foremost among those principles is the full withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the Palestinian and Arab land occupied in 1967, a commitment to self-determination for the Palestinian people away from any external intervention, and the institution of temporary international supervision over the occupied territories until such time as the Palestinian people take charge of those territories.

'Abd-Rabbuh said that the PLO may present a comprehensive plan based on these principles some time in the future. Elections could be acceptable, he added, if viewed as one element in the comprehensive settlement, an element which should be combined with other elements. A timetable should be drawn up for the implementation of those elements and in order to bring about Israeli withdrawal.

'Abd-Rabbuh stated that the PLO does not object to a U.S. proposal that a second session of the Geneva conference, held in 1973, be convened under the cochairmanship of the United States and the Soviet Union, on condition that the parties concerned with the Arab-Israeli conflict would take part. This, he said, would mean that the PLO should take part in the conference as the representative of the Palestinian people living in the homeland and abroad. Any other proposals attempting at dividing the representation of the Palestinians is not aimed at furthering the prospects for a just solution, but rather at undermining the achievements of the Palestinian struggle and the intifadah.

The U.S. delegation, 'Abd-Rabbuh said, told the PLO during their recent meeting that the U.S. Administration will submit a new memorandum to the PLO, incorporating some of the ideas discussed in the third meeting as well as some fresh ones.

PLO to Draw Up 'Integrated' Peace Plan

JN2906163589 Manama WAKH in English 1550 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Dubai, June 29 (GNA)—Member of the PLO Executive Committee and chairman of the PLO committee entrusted to conduct a dialogue with U.S. Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh has said the PLO will draw up an integrated plan to achieve peace in the occupied Arab territories.

In an interview published by AL-BAYAN newspaper, 'Abd-Rabbuh added the plan is based on previous grounds laid by the PLO to achieve settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

He pointed out that the Israeli plan to hold elections in the occupied Arab territories can be accepted as part of an overall settlement but not as a complete settlement.

The PLO official called on the U.S. to enhance its political support for the Palestinian rights and for a just settlement to reinstate peace in the region.

He underlined the improtance of the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue noting that a date for the fourth round of the dialogue has not been set.

'Abd-Rabbuh Meets Officials in Sweden 22 Jun

PM2906154689 Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 22 Jun 89 p 5

[Bo Kage Carlson report: "Attempts in the Night To Mediate on the Israeli Elections"]

[Text] A member of the PLO Executive Committee arrived in Stockholm late Tuesday evening [20 June] and met with Foreign Minister Sten Andersson and Foreign Ministry Under Secretary of State Pierre Schori in the middle of the night.

PLO delegate Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh came directly from a meeting in Tunis with the PLO's top leadership. He is the man conducting the talks in the Tunisian capital between the PLO and the United States, which were made possible after Swedish mediation last year.

According to informed sources, 'Abd-Rabbuh has come principally to discuss the question of a general election in the areas on the West Bank and in Gaza occupied by Israel. Hitherto the Palestinian line has been that the elections should be held, but only on condition that Israel first withdraws its occupation forces and that the elections are held under international supervision. The PLO is afraid that otherwise the Israelis will try to manipulate the elections and, with the help of their occupation forces, prevent the PLO from mounting a meaningful election campaign.

The Israelis on the other hand have said that their military presence is a prerequisite for calm and order during the campaign period and on election day itself. They have also called for an end to the uprising, the so-called intifadah, before they agree to call elections.

"We talked for several hours during the night, discussing among other things how the elections on the West Bank and in Gaza should be held," Foreign Ministry Undersecretary of State Pierre Schori said.

PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat has hinted in the past at a degree of willingness to compromise and it is possible that 'Abd-Rabbuh has brought with him proposals for which he wants Sweden to act as intermediary with the Israelis and Americans, now that a deadlock has been reached in the Palestinian-U.S. talks in Tunis.

At the same time it is likely that 'Abd-Rabbuh himself wants to study the background to the proposed statement on Palestine which has been drafted by the Socialist International's Middle East Committee. The text is described as relatively diluted, but it also contains formulations which ought to satisfy the Palestinians, such as the demand for an international conference on the Middle East organized by the United Nations.

According to reports, the draft statement says that all involved parties, including the PLO, should be represented at this conference. The statement will be made public Thursday [22 June] when the Socialist International's Stockholm congress is wound up with a wide-ranging resolution on many international topics.

Even up to yesterday morning it was uncertain whether the PLO would be represented at the Socialist International congress by a more prestigious delegate. As recently as Tuesday Palestinian sources were expressing disappointment that the PLO would not be allowed to address the congress.

"When representatives of the South African ANC [African National Congress] are allowed to address the congress we ought also to be allowed to do so in the name of fairness," a PLO spokesman said.

It now seems as if the PLO will hold a press conference in the congress building today, but will not address the conference itself. This would be much too sensitive in a situation when the Israelis are already irritated that the PLO has been invited to take part as an observer.

In congress circles it is being said that the Israelis have subjected the Socialist International to tough pressure to minimize the effect of the PLO's presence at the congress. Even before the opening ceremony the Israeli Labor Party delegation left Stockholm and in doing so boycotted the meeting.

However, the effect of this action does not seem to have been very great. On the contrary, it is thought that Israel's position within the International will be weakened by what has happened, particularly since two more Arab parties are being admitted as full members and a number of parties from Arab and Muslim countries are being given the status of consultative members.

The new full members come from Egypt and Tunisia. An interesting newcomer as consultative member is Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party.

Names of Palestinian Deportees Reported

JN2906175889 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1625 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Brother strugglers, I have just received the following report:

The American Zionist forces deported four Palestinians from the Gaza Strip to southern Lebanon this evening. They are the following: Riyad Wajih Kamil 'Ajjur, 26 years old, from al-Daraj quarter in Gaza—he is married and has three children—Muhammad Sa'di Muhammad al-Mudawikh, 39 years old; Nabil Muhammad Tannus, from al-Shaykh Radwan camp in Gaza, married; and Agricultural Engineer 'Ata Ahmad Husayn abu-Karsh, 53 years old, from al-Shati' camp. The four deportees were arrested in July of last year.

Egypt

Paper Says U.S. Actions, Not Words Count

JN2906140289 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 27 Jun 89 p 7

[Editorial: "Say, and Do Not Say"]

[Text] It is no longer important that we pay too much attention to what U.S. officials say while expressing absolute support for Israel. Events proved a long time ago that the actions of these officials, not their words, should be believed. These actions have made it certain that the time of actual and full bias toward Israel has virtually ended.

The statements made every now and then by these officials suggesting a fully favorable response to all of Israel's demands, which may perplex and confuse many observers, are often made under temporary political pressures and are meant for local consumption. This, however, does not mean the United States has abandoned Israel as a faithful, reliable ally but that it no longer supports Israel right or wrong and that it is trying to find some middle ground between the rights of the parties in a realistic way that will achieve justice.

It is now taken for granted to hear the U.S. secretary of state openly talking about recognition of Palestinian political rights, the need to deal with the Palestinians as people, and the need for Israel to abandon its annexation of territories and dream of Greater Israel and to hear U.S. President Bush, for example, reiterating full and firm support for Israel. This, of course, is a result of the pressures of the Zionist lobby and its influential groups. It does not signal a "change" or indicate the displacement of the political and diplomatic action within the framework of the new policy adopted since Bush came to power.

This also does not mean the U.S. Administration is double-faced, showing each party the face it likes. It means the United States is reassuring each party that its rights are being considering without harming the rights of the other. It means the U.S. Administration recognizes not only the interests of each party but also the interests of peace, with the ultimate aim of facilitating practical reconciliatory grounds that lead to stability in the region.

These encouraging developments mean that the time when every U.S. statement declaring absolute support for Israel was met with an emotional Arab reaction; protest; and demand for revision, boycott, and revenge has passed. Such U.S. statements pass without a hue and cry now that the Arabs have realized their motives and nature and are certain that to this point they do not affect tangible actions and practices. The Arabs do not mind the Zionist lobby pursuing its hobby of threatening every U.S. official time and again with shouts of say and do not say.

Ghali Welcomes Resumption of Ties With Lebanon

NC2906142089 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1316 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 29 Jun (MENA)—Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has stated that Egypt welcomes the resumption of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Lebanon.

In the first official comment on the resumption of ties, Dr Ghali said Egypt views this step as a significant and symbolic political one which confirms Egypt's determination to defend the Lebanese territorial unity and political independence.

Dr Ghali reiterated Egypt's position, which stresses the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the Lebanese territory in order to enable the Lebanese people to realize their aspiration of achieving national reconciliation and preserving territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence.

Israeli Party Delegation Ends Visit, Departs

NC3006074489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0706 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jun (MENA)—The Israeli MAPAM [United Workers] Party delegation led by party Secretary General El'azar Granot left Cairo for home this morning at the end of a 3-day visit at the invitation of the National Democratic Party [NDP].

While in Cairo, the delegation members held talks with NDP Secretary General Dr Yusuf Wali and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali on developments in the peace efforts in the region and an exchange of party visits.

Prime Minister on 'Progress' in Talks With IMF

JN2906110689 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 27 Jun 89 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi has stressed that there has been a positive development in the talks with the IMF and that an agreement is expected during the talks with the IMF mission over the next 2 days.

After a meeting yesterday with the IMF mission headed by Dr 'Abd-al-Shakur Sha'lan, director of the IMF operations in the Middle East, in the presence of the economic group ministers, the prime minister said that Egypt's policy of economic reform and the reduction of the budget deficit have had a great influence on the progress of talks with the IMF mission. They have also greatly encouraged international organizations to understand Egypt's requests, he said.

NPUG Leader Interviewed on Israel, Islamists

JN2906054889 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic
26 Jun 89 p 11

[Interview with Khalid Muhyi-al-Din, leader of Egypt's National Progressive Unionist Grouping (NPUG) by Muhammad Khaz'al in Tripoli, Libya—date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Khaz'al] How do you assess Egypt's return to the Arab fold of the Arab League?

[Muhyi-al-Din] Given the challenges confronting it, the Arab world gives joint Arab action precedence over other issues. For instance, there is a peace agreement between Egypt and Israel, which is opposed by most of the Arab countries. Yet the Arab states have decided that Egypt's presence in the Arab arena is beneficial and helpful, especially since, after all, the political and military echelons of power in Egypt still view Israel as the major threat to Egypt. That much has been grasped by many Arab leaders who have worked to bridge the official differences and reach the lowest common denominator. I think it is in the interests of Egypt and common Arab action for Egypt to be in the Arab fold. It is not feasible to call on Egypt to abrogate the [Camp David] agreement before it returns to the Arab League. As a progressive, unionist party we are against Camp David. But in political terms the call for abrogating Camp David entails the ability to expel the United States. While the peace treaty provides for normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel, Egyptians of all walks of life are opposed to normalization and this is a fact of life. Nor did the Egyptian Government seek to impose normalization on the Egyptian people. When a former Israeli prime minister was in Egypt in 1980 and was slated to call at a factory, the workers committee there would not see him. No pressure was applied at the workers by the government and the visit was canceled.

[Khaz'al] How do Egypt's nationalist forces address the country's economic crisis in comparison with religious trends?

[Muhyi-al-Din] The advance of religious reformists and extremists is, in my opinion, traceable to the weakness of the movement of the progressive and national forces. I think that it would be ill advised to deal with these forces by attacking them head-on, as such a course of action will further provoke and strengthen them. We will counter their influence by reaching out to the masses and their concerns. Such an approach is appropriate given that the religous trend is now in parliament and has been there for 2 years. It is right to ask here what are the vital issues of the Egyptians, and what are the issues on which the Islamic trend fought its political battles in parliament and in the Egyptian street. The priority issues for the Egyptian people are democracy, bread, and inflation. The religious trend is not identifying itself with these issues. It is not a coincidence that the Islamists are not active among the peasantry in the countryside or among workers at factories; they are active among student and professional circles. This is to be regretted. Apparently the crisis is an intellectual one for them, with their activity concentrated in urban centers, and it is for this reason that their voice is heard. Their presence is also felt among students, doctors, lawyers, and in universities. Not that we are against people being religious, but when religion is attached to political action, sanctity is attributed to the latter. To my mind, the key issues for the Egyptian people are those of bread and butter. The Islamists have of late come round to talking about them. But they are not in the forefront of the champions of these causes. They therefore have no presence speaking among workers and peasants. They are active only in the circles of the intelligentsia and in some professional organizations. They are nonexistent in the journalists association; they have withdrawn from the bar association. I must stress here that the Islamic trends have drawn their strength from the weakness of the democratic, nationalist, and progressive forces.

[Khaz'al] In this regard, what role are the progressive forces playing in organizing the struggle of the Egyptian people in defense of their daily bread?

[Muhyi-al-din] We have no other issue but this. NPUG members constantly go to jail over the bread issue. The NPUG is virtually the only party that raises the slogan of bread and whose members join the masses. Some members of the party are frequently arrested and their freedom is restricted for some time lest major incidents should happen.

[Khaz'al] What Egyptian nationalist forces have things in common with the NPUG?

[Muhyi-al-Din] We have two parties that lead our action: The socialist party or the left-wing party, which comprises all categories of the Nasirists and Marxists—their main force being the Egyptian Communist Party—and the grouping party and the public nationalist and progressive figures. We call these forces the Egyptian left-wing alliance. The alliance has long-term goals and is aimed at achieving the so-called national democratic revolution that would stop the retrogression of the 23 July revolution and put it back on its course. It is also aimed at coordinating efforts with any other forces concerned about the issue of democracy. We have no choice but to cooperate with the existing parties irrespective of their positions and classification as right wing and so forth. The issues of democracy, modification of the Constitution, changing the system of elections, and finding guarantees to combat the freedom of voting [phrase as published] are common between us. It became clear that any economic reform cannot be achieved without political reform. Economic reform asks people for sacrifices, and this is not possible if they are not partners in decisionmaking.

Hence comes the importance of democracy as a condition necessary for any economic reform. Democracy means the participation of the people. [passage omitted]

[Khaz'al] There are some official Arab attempts pressing toward accepting Shamir's plan for elections in the occupied territories. Do you think that the plan, in its proposed form, would undermine the intifadah [uprising]?

[Muhyi-al-Din] I personally have absolute confidence in the Palestinian leadership inside and outside the occupied territories. It is well known that all states and parties intervene in the Palestine question, and I think the Palestinians are handling things wisely and knowledgeably. A short time ago, Faysal al-Husayni was in Egypt, and he said the Palestinians do not reject the elections but they have their own conditions, including the need for international supervision of these elections, withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the territories, and that the elections be part of the comprehensive solution. I do not see any Palestinian retraction in this issue.

[Khaz'al] This is as regards the Palestinian position. But let us talk about the Arab position. Egypt, for instance, said it does not reject Shamir's plan, but it has some observations regarding it.

[Muhyi-al-Din] I do not think Egypt will ask President 'Arafat to accept Shamir's plan. This is impossible. I am talking about the Egyptian media, which says that Shamir's plan has no foundations and is unacceptable. But when Egypt officially asks for accepting Shamir's plan, this will mean undermining the intifadah [uprising], which is difficult. [passage omitted]

PLO Envoy Praises EC Statement, Urges Action

NC2906114989 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1101 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 29 Jun (MENA)—Zuhdi al-Qidrah, Fatah movement representative and PLO charge d'affaires in Cairo, has praised the EC summit statement, which emphasized the Palestinian people's national rights, foremost among which is their right to self-determination and the need for the PLO to participate in all phases of the settlement process.

In a statement to a MENA correspondent, Al-Qidrah urged the European countries to translate this statement into action by pressuring Israel and the United States to halt the Israeli repression against the Palestinian people and to recognize the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

He said that security in Palestine concerns Europe, which should assume its responsibilities in order to put an end to the Palestinian people's suffering. He asserted that the Palestinian people are determined to recover their national rights, foremost among which is their right to establish an independent state with Jerusalem its capital.

Urges Countering Israeli Measures

NC3006091989 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0824 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jun (MENA)—Zuhdi al-Qidrah, Fatah movement representative and PLO charge d'affaires in Cairo, has appealed to the international community and international humanitarian organizations for immediate intervention to end the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories and to curb the arbitrary and inhuman Israeli practices against the Palestinian people.

In a statement to a MENA correspondent, he disclosed that, 43 people have been martyred and 3,500 others wounded in the Gaza Strip during the past 2 months as a result of the Israeli measures. Also, he added, 3 Palestinian women have miscarried and 89 citizens have been arrested. He revealed that the occupation authorities have demolished 94 houses, destroyed 334 donums of arable land, and closed down 9 mosques.

The Palestinian official noted that the occupation authorities believe they will succeed in putting down the intifadah [uprising] of the Palestinian people by escalating their arbitrary measures against the Palestinian citizens in the occupied territories.

Kuwait Receives Armored Vehicles, Missiles

JN3006055089 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 28 Jun 89 p 1

[By Jamal Kamal]

[Excerpt] Kuwait has received the first batch of Egyptian Fahd armored vehicles and Egyptian-made jeeps which are part of a deal of 120 armored vehicles.

Kuwait also received the first batch of Egyptian air defense missiles of the Ammun type last February. [passage omitted]

Grants From U.S., Other Countries Planned

JN3006080789 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 28 Jun 89 p 1

[Text] It has been decided to allocate about 158 million [Egyptian] pounds as nonrefundable grants to Egypt from six countries—the United States, Japan, the FRG, Italy, Finland, and Denmark—to develop local communities and the governorates' infrastructure projects included in the economic and social development plan for the year 1989-90.

The U.S. contribution in these grants amounts to approximately 136 million pounds. Finland will contribute 3.5 million; Italy, 6.3 million; Japan, 9.6 million; the FRG, 1.5 million; and Denmark, 1 million pounds.

IBRD To Extend Loan for Energy Projects

NC3006053689 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0335 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] AL-AHRAM newspaper disclosed in today's edition that the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development [IBRD] announced yesterday that it has agreed to give Egypt a $165 million loan to be repaid over 20 years with a 5-year grace period. The annual interest rate will be 7.65 percent. The loan is designed to finance Egyptian projects to increase electricity and energy output.

Libya

GPC, U.S. Group Discuss Policy, Palestine

LD2906090989 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0740 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Tripoli, 29 June (JANA)—An enlarged meeting between members of the General People's Congress [GPC] Permanent Secretariat and the U.S. delegation representing the committee for good-offices took place at the Permanent Secretariat headquarters yesterday.

After welcoming the U.S. delegation, the General People's Congress brother general secretary said the Great Jamahiriyah differentiates between the U.S. people and the U.S. Administration's policy, particularly the previous administration. He pointed out that the Arab nation is struggling for unity, independence and progress, and that it was confronted with a blatant U.S. aggression that has discredited the slogans used by the United States such as peace, freedom, and human rights. The general secretary supported his speech with vivid examples, and particularly recalled that following the issue of Wilson's principle after World War I concerning people's freedom and independence of nations, one finds that the United States uses these slogans against the people of Arab Palestine, and for the past four centuries the United States has supported the Zionist entity, and opposes liberation movements by progressive regimes.

The hostile position of Reagan's United States against the people of the Great Jamahiriyah, its shelling of the towns of Tripoli and Benghazi and the revolution leader's house, is but new evidence of the contradiction in U.S. policy, the contradiction between the peace and freedom slogans that the United States proclaims and the practice of organized terrorism against the Arab nation and the peoples of the world.

Afterwards, a dialogue took place with the U.S. delegation on the issues of Palestine and Arab unity.

Turkish, Bulgarian Envoys Summoned Over Muslims

LD2906124289 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1140 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Tripoli, 29 Jun (JANA)—Within the framework of the great al-Fatah revolution's interest in issues of the minorities and their Islamic and cultural characteristics, the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation summoned the Turkish ambassador and the charge d'affaires of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in order to inform them of the Jamahiriyah's concern and its deep interest in the issue of the Muslims in Bulgaria. The two officials were called upon to adopt dialogue as a way to solve this problem to ensure that relations and good-neighborliness are consolidated.

Sudan

Armed Forces Stage Coup in Khartoum 30 Jun

Military Seizes Power

NC3006085889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0849 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Jun (MENA)—The Sudanese Armed Forces seized power in Sudan early this morning.

Army units secured strategic positions in the city including the Presidential Palace, the Prime Ministry, and the Army headquarters and prevented movement on bridges.

Further on Situation

JN3006091789 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0907 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Jun (INA)—The Sudanese Armed Forces announced that it took power in Sudan at dawn today.

A statement, signed by Staff Brigadier General 'Umar Hasan and broadcast over Khartoum radio, stated that "the Sudanese Armed Forces have put an end to the chaos prevailing over the country."

An INA correspondent in Khartoum said that Army units this morning took control of the vital areas in the capital, Khartoum, which "lives a normal life so far."

He added that Khartoum radio is currently broadcasting the first communique and martial music.

The military communique states that "Sudan has become a scene for party conflicts and chaos."

The communique attacks the chairman of the State Council and describes him as a "deformed rubber stamp." The communique says that the prime minister "has wasted the time of the country by talking so much and hesitating and changing his mind in politics."

The communique says: "The political wantonness has rendered the democratic experience a failure, destroyed national unity, and led to the sons of the one people to carry arms against each other and to the continuation of the tragedy in the south."

Khartoum radio asked citizens to "take to the streets to express support for the change." The radio said that "the fate of Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and all members of the State Council is unknown."

The radio also announced that Khartoum Airport will be closed and all telephone communications disconnected.

Until now, Khartoum television has not begun its morning transmission.

The INA correspondent said that the Sudanese radio this morning stopped broadcasting for a while. When it resumed broadcasting, it stated that an important statement would soon be broadcast.

The INA correspondent added that the radio began broadcasting a communique in the name of "June Revolution" in which it was stated that the Armed Forces have seized power for the sake of what it described as "the injured dignity and Sudan's future."

The communique attacks the government and says that "it failed to run the country and destroyed the economy."

The correspondent added that "units of the special forces took control of Khartoum Airport and banned entry to and exit from it." He added that while the Prime Ministry buildings seem free of any security measures, units of the Army surrounded the Republican Palace and banned traffic in the surrounding streets.

The correspondent said that movement in the capital has remarkably reduced, while mystery still surounds the situation there.

Institutions 'Dissolved'

JN3006111689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1104 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Jun (INA)—In the first constitutional decree issued here today, the coup leaders dissolved all political institutions represented in the Constituent Assembly, the State Council, and the Council of Ministers.

An INA correspondent in Khartoum saw a number of Army trucks heading toward the Armed Forces General Command. The trucks were carrying fully armed paratroops who were shouting slogans in support of the coup leaders.

The correspondent says that the Armed Forces also controls the Omdurman radio station.

The decree, which was signed by Staff Brigadier General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, decided to freeze the Sudanese transitional constitution of 1986. The decree states that the national salvation revolution is an expression of the political and constitutional legitimacy that represents the public will of the people of the Republic of Sudan.

The decree explains that the Revolution Command Council is a supreme constitutional, legislative, and executive power and that it will supervise military and security affairs and appoint, direct, and question the Council of Ministers.

The decree states that the chairman of the Revolution Command Council will also serve as head of state, prime minister, defense minister, and commander in chief of the Armed Forces.

The decree calls on the judiciary organs and nonpolitical institutions to continue their work. It also orders the ministries' under secretaries to run their ministries until a new cabinet is formed.

Dissolution Decree

LD3006112189 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1035 GMT 30 Jun 89

[First constitutional decree—read by announcer]

[Text] Dear honorable citizens,

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate,

First constitutional decree: In the name of God, in the name of the people, and by order of the Council of the Revolutionary Command, the following decree is issued:

1. The revolution of national salvation is an expression of the political and constitutional legitimacy representing the people's collective will in the Republic of Sudan.

2. Abiding by the transitional Constitution of the Republic of Sudan of 1986 is interrupted.

3. The following political institutions are dissolved and the mandates of their members are invalidated: The Constitutional Assembly, the State Council, the Council of Ministers.

4. The Council of the Revolutionary Command, which has announced the revolution of national salvation, is a higher constitutional, legislative, and executive authority, and will be in charge of the following prerogatives and authorities:
a. To issue and amend constitutional decrees;
b. To pass laws;
c. Military and security issues;
d. To appoint cabinet ministers, to guide them, and bring them to book.

5. The chairman of the revolutionary council, who is appointed by this council, will be appointed head of state, prime minister, minister of defense, and commander in chief of the Armed Forces. [as heard]

The head of the revolutionary council and cabinet ministers appoints governors of provinces, administrators, and those who occupy any post whose appointment is stipulated by the head of state or by cabinet ministers.

6. The cabinet ministers are authorized to exercise executive powers while taking into account the rules of this decree.

7. The judicial body and other existing nonpolitical constitutional institutions prior to this decree will remain in force. Also, the laws will remain in force, and the nonpolitical undersecretaries of ministries, directors of departments, and employees will remain in force in accordance with the law, and until there is any amendment in accordance with this decree or law.

8. This law comes into force from the date of its issuance.

Issued at the Headquarters of the Revolutionary Command Council and signed in Khartoum on 30 June 1989.

Staff Brigadier General, 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolutionary Council.

Airport Closed

NC3006092789 Paris AFP in English 0924 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, June 30 (AFP)—The Sudanese Army seized power in a coup d'etat in Khartoum at dawn Friday, the official Egyptian news agency MENA and airline sources reported.

The sources here said troops had moved into the capital at 3 a.m. local time (0000 GMT Thursday).

MENA said Army soldiers had been deployed at major buildings such as the Presidential Palace and the cabinet offices in the Sudanese capital and blocked traffic over Nile bridges.

Khartoum airport had been closed and the state-run Radio Omdurman had temporarily halted normal programmes and begun broadcasting military music, the agency reported.

The airline sources confirmed the airport closure, saying several craft of various Western airlines were stranded there.

The agency said several announcements were made over the radio in the name of the "June Revolution" followed by a statement from Brigadier General Hasan 'Ammar that the Army had seized power.

Gen 'Ammar, who appeared to have led the coup, criticised the government and political parties for "failing in their endeavour to manage the country, leading Sudan into international isolation and causing the deterioration of its economy," MENA said.

Rumours were rife in Khartoum that politicians had been arrested, MENA added.

MENA said that Gen 'Umar Hasan commanded an armoured brigade.

Further on Airport

NC3006105389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1045 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Jun (MENA)—The Sudanese Armed Forces have seized control of all important strategic positions in the capital. Various forces from the Army, the artillery, and the paratroopers have closed the airport and emptied it of all passengers and vehicles while tanks sealed off the entrances.

The Armed Forces have also seized control of the Armed Forces General Command and tanks and soldiers armed with machine guns have been seen at the command entrance.

Telephone communication with the outside world have been cut off since dawn today. Transmission of Omdurman Radio was delayed. It was due to start at 0630 as usual, but it began transmission at 0730 and informed the citizens that it would broadcast an important communique from the Armed Forces to the people. Staff Brigadier General 'Umar Hasan broadcast the first communique of the June Revolution at 0900 today.

Coup Group Named

NC3006113689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1127 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Jun (MENA)—MENA's correspondent in Khartoum has learned that the coup movement is calling itself the National Movement for Rectification of the Situation [Al-Harakah al-Qawmiyah Li Tashih al-Awda']. It has been reported in the capital that the movement is keeping all ranking Sudanese politicians under house arrest.

The coup was carried out by the paratroopers and armored units deployed around the capital. The paratroopers have gained control of the airport, the Presidential Palace, and the radio station, while the armored units are in control of the bridges, preventing civilians from crossing to Khartoum, Omdurman, and Khartoum North.

Meanwhile, the signal units are operating the Khartoum radio station.

Al-Mahdi Under House Arrest

JN3006110989 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Jun (INA)—An INA correspondent has said that the military units that seized power set out from the Paratroop and Armored Corps barracks situated near the capital.

The correspondent notes that the Parachute Corps controls the airport, the Presidential Palace, and the radio station. Armored units, which control the bridges, ban crossing between the three cities that constitute the capital—Khartoum, Omdurman, and Khartoum North.

The correspondent says that so far, no popular reaction for or against the new movement has emerged. Meanwhile, a pickup is driving through the capital's streets calling on citizens to support the new movement.

Khartoum radio, which is controlled by the movement, has not carried any cables of support for the movement.

The INA correspondent has learned that soldiers from the Signal Corps are running and operating Khartoum radio.

The INA correspondent has also learned that Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and his cabinet members are under house arrest.

The correspondent also says that the fate of the Army commanders and the Army command, which the leaders of the movement call the "previous command," is unknown.

The correspondent says that the leader of the movement is Staff Officer 'Umar Hasan, repeat, 'Umar Hasan.

Armed Forces Actions 'Fair'

LD3006093789 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0907 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Noble citizens,

Your armed forces are not aiming at parsimony or intimidation, nor to exaltation and glorification. They give everyone his due and act in a fair and just way.

This revolution is not omnipotence and tyranny but salvation to this country in which conditions have deteriorated, and where the Sudanese people lack the most basic factors of life.

Long live the Armed Forces as the protector of the patrimony of this nation, the center of its rights, and the focus [ka'bah] of its opinion.

'Tremendous Revolution' Undertaken

LD3006094889 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0913 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

To the sons of the Sudanese people everywhere.

Your armed forces are undertaking tremendous revolution for the sake of change after suffering a deterioration in everything, to the extent that your lives have become paralyzed, a matter which has led to a change. Sudan's pan-Arab interests are appreciated by your Armed Forces which have confronted the remnants of reaction and venality. The Armed Forces' motivation is a pan-Arab one—an appreciation and protection for the country's integrity.

Long live the Armed Forces.

Long live the masses of the glorious Sudanese people.

Armed Forces 'One' With People

LD3006100189 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0925 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Unscheduled announcment]

[Text] Heroic and proud Sudanese people; people of heroism, sacrifices, and devotion:

Your Armed Forces, in addition to their heroic duty of protecting the homeland from the cunning enemies, have to be at one with their noble people.

During the period of verbal rule, which is void of action, you have witnessed economic deterioration, a high cost of living, and poor security conditions. Despite all this, the government's sole role was paper decisions which have no real benefit. Will we live on sweet words? Will we be satisfied with meetings held day and night? The first priority is to the Sudanese people, the light which has been consumed by fire and false promises.

Pride and dignity to Sudan, glory and eternity to the homeland.

Announcement on 'Generation of Anger'

LD3006100889 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] The volcano which erupted in the small hour of today's glorious morning proves to the Sudanese, as well as the whole world, that the generation of anger does not cow before suppression, nor does it crack before scorn.

At this dear (?moment) the Army and the people meet—one Army and one people. [words indistinct]

30 Jun 'Day of Liberation'

LD3006104189 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0958 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] O heroic Sudanese people:

Today is the day for emancipation from false democracy.

Today is the day of liberation. Today is the day when happiness flows on the streets of heroic and glorious Khartoum; in the faces of children and the faces of oppressed people; in the happiness of every revolutionary; and in the anger of mild-mannered people. Your Armed Forces, O people, will only defend Sudan; they were like this in the past, they remain so now, and will be in the future, God willing. The Armed Forces will not protect a corrupt regime unable to to provide the minimum standard of living for the Sudanese people.

Long live Sudan, O our dearest homeland. Long live the free people. Long live your heroic Armed Forces, forever.

Coup Trial Ultimatum to Government Alleged

PM2906104689 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 Jun 89 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "Ultimatum From Sudanese Army"]

[Text] Cairo, Khartoum, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Bureau—A Sudanese source in Cairo describing himself as close to former President Ja'far Numayri has said that Numayri has left Egyptian territory and gone abroad, denying that his destination was Alexandria. However, the source refused to disclose whether Numayri's destination was a European or an American state. He added that this would be premature, adding that the tour is part of what he termed the efforts that he [Numayri] began earlier.

In Khartoum AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that the tendency which crystallized during the meetings held at the Armed Forces' military units is urging a reappraisal of the links between the political and military authorities, the formulation of proposals in connection with the present situation, and the issue of a 72-hour ultimatum to the authorities concerned to settle the the issue of the attempted coup and announce the results of the investigation.

Over the past few days enlightenment meetings have been held at the military units. They discussed military security conditions in the wake of the coup. AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned from senior military sources that the meetings produced very important and serious results to the effect that the principle of changing the present situation is not in the country's interests.

The source said that the tendency resulting from those meeting stresses the need for the accused to be brought to trial immediately as a deterrent, if indicted, or for an open official apology to them if found innocent.

The meetings urged practical and moral support for the Armed Forces, the implementation of their February memorandum, and adherence to all its clauses.

Military sources have revealed to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the detained officers have not made any confessions admitting the existence of a coup conspiracy, but one officer—Brigadier Muhammad Fadlallah, of the parachute corps—has made confessions in that regard.

The source said that the officer who met with Lieutenant General 'Abd-al-Rahman Sa'id, deputy chief of staff for military operations, tried to persuade him to participate in the coup, but he informed military intelligence to follow up the matter and make inquiries.

Military sources believe that the general command hastily issued the communique announcing the attempted coup when there was no clear evidence apart from Lieutenant General Sa'id's meeting with that officer, who named the other officers. The sources indicated that it would take a whole brigade, not just 140 officers, to implement such a bloodthirsty scheme as that announced.

Staff General Fathi Ahmad 'Ali, commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces, said in a statement yesterday that the measures taken after the recent coup attempt was uncovered, including the arrest of a number of officers, reflect the desire to prevent the Armed Forces from lapsing into political fanaticism.

He said that the interrogation of those accused in the coup attempt is being conducted within the legal military framework with a view to clarifying all the facts of the matter, adding that the investigations are impartial and fair.

He also said that the investigation of the accused officers must be conducted independently of any attempts at political self-promotion and that the media must stop trying to prejudice the course of the investigations, adding that this is in the interests neither of the detainees nor of the Armed Forces.

He added that the Armed Forces will not backtrack from what was stated in their February memorandum with regard to the problems to be resolved, that the implementation of the memorandum's provisions is acceptable in view of the conditions being experienced in Sudan, but that the Armed Forces are seeking more.

Paper Says Numayri Visits Ndjamena 24-25 Jun

JN2906165589 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 28 Jun 89 pp 1, 13

[By AL-BAYAN correspondents]

[Excerpt] Khartoum, Cairo—Informed sources in Khartoum yesterday stressed that the Sudanese Government has received an official message from the regional government in Darfur region, which is adjacent to Chad, saying that former Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri visited the Chadian capital Ndjamena last Saturday and Sunday [24-25 June], that he was accorded an official reception there, and that the Chadian president has informed him that he will help him return to power in Sudan. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Finance Minister Presents 1989-90 Budget

JN2906151189 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 28 Jun 89 p 1

[Text] Kuwait, June 27, (KUNA): Kuwait's 1989-90 budget will have an anticipated deficit of KD [Kuwait dinars] 1.3186 billion (a Kuwait dinar approximately equals $3.5), KD27.6 million less than last year.

Following a cabinet session held to discuss the budget, Finance Minister Jasim Muhammad al-Kharafi said the 1989-90 revenues totalled KD2.2305 billion, and increase of KD176.5 million over the previous year.

Al-Kharafi indicated that this year's budget will witness and increase in both oil and non-oil revenues. Oil revenues brought in KD1.942 billion compared to last year's figure of KD1.788 billion while the non-revenues were KD23 million more than 1988's KD265.5 million.

About overall expenditure, Al-Kharafi said that they will total KD3.5491 billion, an icrease of KD148.9 million over 1988. The expenditures include KD223.1 million as allocations for future generations—an increase of KD17.7 million over last year.

He said public spending will be KD3.326 billion.

The minister estimated that the salaries chapter will witness a slight hike of 0.2 percent of KD40.7 million over last year's figure of KD886.3 million.

The second chapter, namely goods and services, will witness a decrease of 0.4 per cent (KD3 million) from last year's 8.3 per cent. The estimated sum for this chapter is KD261 million.

Expenditure for the third chapter, means of transportation and equipment, will be KD28 million (0.8 per cent), compared with KD26.6 million last year.

Expenduture for the fourth chapter, construction projects and appropriations, will be KD760 million, or 22.8 percent of the total public spending. The amount is KD3 million more than last year.

Miscellaneous, the fifth and final chapter, will account for 40.6 per cent or KD1.350 billion of the expenditure. In 1988 the expenditure for the same chapter was KD1.261 billion.

The Council of Ministers, after thorough discussions, today endorsed the budget and decided to submit it to the Amiri Diwan for final approval.

State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashid al-Rashid said following the cabinet meeting held under the chairmanship of HH [His Highness] the Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah, that the council listened to a detailed explanation by Al-Kharafi on the state's revenues and expenditures.

He indicated the cabinet also reviewed a report in this regard prepared by the Higher Planning Council (HPC), which contained the economic committee's recommendations regarding the budget and its role in implementing the national development plan's goals.

Al-Rashid denied that the new state budget will add any new burden on the people. He said that the issue of services has a special dimension to the government and "we deal with this issue in a very cautious way."

He said the general policy of the state is not to "exhaust the people or increase their financial burdens." But he added many studies have been done and proposals have been made in this connection.

PDRY

YAR Interior Minister Begins Visit 28 Jun

EA2906133089 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Jun 89

[Text] Dr 'Abdallah Barakat, minister of interior and member of the permanent committee in the northern part of the homeland, arrived in Aden this afternoon on a visit to the southern part which will last several days.

He was received at the airport by Brothers Brigadier Salih Munassar al-Siyayli, member of the Political Bureau, deputy prime minister and minister of interior; Colonel Mutahhar Mus'id Muslih, member of the Central Committee and deputy minister of interior; and a number of officials in the ministry.

In a statement to ADEN NEWS AGENCY, Brother Barakat said that his visit to the southern part of the homeland comes 1 year after the beginning of the move to issue citizens in the two parts with identity cards. He described this move as a wise and successful one, in terms of linking the interests of the brothers in the two parts. He extended congratulations to his brother, Al-Siyayli, and to the masses of our people, on the success of this step, which was taken by the ministers of interior in the two parts and approved by the political leadership in the two parts.

He said that his meetings with his brother, Al-Siyayli, were within the context—in accordance with the directives of the political leadership in the two parts—of the series of meetings to discuss ways and means of overcoming any obstacles that exist and establishing common understanding, as steps to achieving Yemeni unity.

Holds Talks

JN2906160489 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abdallah Husayn Barakat, interior minister and Standing Committee member, has given a letter from the brother leader, secretary general of the General People's Congress, Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, to brothers 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Central Committee, and Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in our southern part of the homeland. The letter deals with coordination and consultations on unionist steps between the two parts. The minister was received by them last night.

Meanwhile, the interior minister has met with his counterpart in the southern part of the homeland. They discussed cooperation and coordination in security matters so as to advance the unionist movement.

Upon his arrival in Aden yesterday, the brother minister indicated that his visit to the southern part of the homeland was to mark 1 year since citizens began traveling between the two parts of the homeland with identity cards.

Later in the evening, a first round of talks was held between the interior ministers of the two parts of the homeland.

Confers With Counterpart

EA2906213889 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Excerpt] A second session of talks between the Ministries of Interior of the two parts of the homeland was held this morning at the Ministry of Interior. The talks were chaired on the southern side by Brother Brigadier Salih Munassar al-Siyayli, member of the Political Bureau, deputy prime minister, and minister of interior; and by Brother Dr 'Abdallah Husayn Barakat, minister of interior and member of the Permanent Committee, on the northern side.

The topics discussed at yesterday's session were aired again today. These concern areas of common interest, including criminals and ways of dealing with them, the status of expatriates when they move between the two parts, and implementation of previous agreements signed between the two ministries. The talks are scheduled for completion this evening.

Brothers Salih Munassar al-Siyayli and Dr 'Abdallah Husayn Barakat visited Abyan Governorate this morning. They inspected the people's police command, where they heard a detailed explanation about general police activities in the governorate and tasks being carried out by the people's police in preserving security and stability. [passage omitted]

Meets Party Chief

EA2906215589 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Yesterday evening Brother Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee, met Brother Dr 'Abdallah Husayn Barakat, minister of interior and member of the Permanent Committee in the northern part of the homeland, who conveyed a message from his brother, 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress. The message concerns coordination and consultation about steps toward unity.

At the meeting, the brother secretary general expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the leaderships of the two parts toward reunifying the homeland and its people. He stressed the importance of continuing efforts to take more tangible steps toward unity, in accordance with the principles of the glorious September and October revolutions.

Saudi Arabia

Iran Broadcasting 'Imaginary Statements' on Hajj

LD2906201289 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1835 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Riyadh, 29 Jun (SPA)—A responsible source made the following statement to SPA:

With the approach of this year's hajj season, Radio Tehran has begun to broadcast imaginary statements attributed to alleged conferences, containing affronts to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia accusing it of preventing Iranian pilgrims from performing the pilgrimage, and rejecting at the same time fixed ratios (for determining the number of pilgrims from each country according to the size of its population) which were approved and agreed upon by the whole Islamic world in the provisions of the resolution adopted by the conference of the Islamic countries's foreign ministers which was held in Amman from 21-25 March 1988. The number of the Iranian pilgrims was fixed at 45,000 on condition that they adhere to all the Islamic teachings and ethics referred to in the resolution.

The source went on to say: It is regrettable that Iran continues its campaign of attacks in the media against the Kingdom and its leaders despite the fact that the Saudi media continues to adhere to the noble directives of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, to the Saudi media 10 months ago, to halt the campaign of replying to the repeated Iranian fabrications.

The source concluded its statement by saying: Therefore, in the event of the continuation of the affronts to the Kingdom by any Iranian information media, the Saudi media with all its means will be the more able and truthful in the spreading the facts and exposing matters.

8 Uprising Leaders Deported to Lebanon 29 Jun

TA2906142689 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Report by military correspondent 'Amos Har'el]

[Text] Eight residents of the territories were deported to southern Lebanon a short time ago. The deportees are central figures in the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising, Fatah, and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Expulsion orders against the eight were issued on 17 August 1988. The eight were deported this afternoon to Lebanon following completion of the legal proceedings against them, and rejection of their appeals against the deportation.

Four of the deportees are Gaza Strip residents and four are from Judaea and Samaria.

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin announced that if calm returns to the territories, and if the deportees fulfill certain conditions, the defense establishment would consider permitting them to return to their homes within 3 years. The basic condition they must fulfill is to immediately cease all activities against Israel.

Details of Deportation

TA2906182489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Report by Shlomo Berger]

[Excerpt] An army helicopter flew the eight deportees to Zummarayya on the northern edge of the security zone in south Lebanon. Carrying a few belongings and plastic bags they were transferred to Syrian-controlled territory and given $100 each. The army says the eight were leaders of the uprising who had responsibility for the shock committees and popular committees. Four of the group were from Judaea and Samaria, and four from Gaza.

Among them is Muhammad al-Labadi of al-Birah, a leading activist in the Democratic Front who was jailed in the past. He wrote and distributed uprising leaflets. He was also the liaison between the Democratic Front and the DEREKH HANITZOTZ group [whose Jewish members are suspected of contacts with the PLO].

Taysir Muhammad Nasrallah of the Balatah refugee camp was a leading Fatah activist. He headed the shock committees in Nabulus responsible for enforcing strikes and other dictates of Palestine activists.

Riyadh 'Ajur of Gaza was the head of several popular committees whose activities included the distribution of leaflets and torching shops which stayed open during strike hours.

Muhammad Sa'adi Amoukh, also of Gaza, was sentenced to 20 years in prison in 1974. He was released, but continued terrorist and subversive activity. Some of those deported were released in the prisoner exchange with Ahmad Jibril 4 years ago.

The expulsions are the first since 1 January when 13 Palestinians were deported. [passage omitted]

Netanyahu Criticizes Recent U.S.-PLO Dialogue

TA2906175789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Report by announcer David Ze'ev]

[Text] State Department officials have confirmed a Kuwaiti news report that administration contacts with the PLO have been more frequent and at a higher level than was hitherto revealed. PLO number two, Salah Khalaf—also known as Abu-Iyad—told the Kuwaiti news agency that he had met twice with U.S. Ambassador to Tunisia Robert Pelletreau. I asked Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu what he thought of these additional meetings:

[Begin recording] [Netanyahu] What is required here is a demonstration of both deed and word, and we have not seen either in the case of the PLO. It should not be rewarded with these high-level meetings. Abu-Iyad continues to support and to promote violence within the territories and terrorism on Israel's border. In general, we know that there are Palestinian Arabs with whom we meet and we talk who are afraid to come out with their independent views towards genuine and free democratic elections precisely because of the kind of terror that is applied not only against Jews, but against Arabs, by the PLO—by Abu-Iyad, by 'Arafat. So by building up these people, by meeting them, by upgrading the contacts with the PLO, the United States is pushing peace further back and not pushing it forward.

[Ze'ev] There is a point of view that says the only way to get these people to modify, to change their views, is by talking to them.

[Netanyahu] Well, if they had shown any indications of a real and complete change of heart one could argue that point, I suppose, but we would still have an argument because we think that the PLO's very nature is responsible for the absence of peace. But when the PLO leadership, when this very man, Abu-Iyad, every day—and literally in the last few days, in the last few weeks, the last few months—is saying over and over and over again: We are using declarations of peace as a tactic of war, we have not abandoned the idea of destroying Israel, we have perfected it; when such a man explicitly goes on the record time and again it is more than peculiar and disappointing that the United States embrace him and accord him the level and the status of a statesman. [end recording]

The prime minister's media adviser, Avi Pazner, said Israel is opposed to the talks between the United States and the PLO at any level, whether they are with Abu-Iyad or with some lesser figure in the PLO.

We made this clear to the United States in the past and this is also how we feel about the latest contacts, Pazner told our reporter.

Arens on 'Upgraded' Talks

TA3006113489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens by political Arye Golan—live]

[Text] [Golan] Mr Foreign Minister, were you surprised by the fact that U.S. Ambassador to Tunis Pelletreau has already met with Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf], 'Arafat's deputy—a move that raises the level of U.S.-PLO contacts—just this week as we were feeling that we have managed to stem the flow of PLO successes?

[Arens] The Americans claim that they did not raise the level of contacts. As far as they are concerned, they are definitely right, because the meetings involved Pelletreau, not anyone senior to him. They maintain that the meeting was of a social nature and not an official meeting.

[Golan] Do you buy this explanation?

[Arens] I think that as far as the facts are concerned, I presume it is true. Furthermore, we do not usually get inaccurate information from the U.S. Administration on such matters. The important thing, however, is the perception. I presume that the Arab population of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District—possibly the most important target population these days—could believe that the level has indeed been upgraded and that the PLO is improving its relations with the United States. This is very bad at this point in time.

[Golan] To what extent can these reports from Tunis change the balance of power within Likud ranks?

[Arens] I do not know that this can be said at all. No doubt different members will interpret things differently. I presume, nonetheless, that the Central Committee members will comprehend the political problems which we face, the international predicament we are in, and the importance of the Israeli Government's political initiative in improving and strengthening our position in this struggle, and see this as merely another reminder of the above. I think there is no doubt that if we abandon the initiative, and if our prime minister is dealt a blow by the Central Committee—and people understand very well what I mean by a blow, even if they try to gloss it over by calling them reservations, addenda, or amendments to the plan—this will affect not only his personal status or the Likud's standing, but also Israel's position in the international arena.

[Golan] As chairman of the Herut Movement Executive, can you see any way out of this mess, this major contest between the camp of ministers who support the prime minister and the other camp, consisting of Ministers Sharon, Levi, and Moda'i?

[Arens] Look, I would not say that it is a mess. These people are actually trying to express no-confidence in the prime minister. The only way that would serve the movement and the country well would be for the prime minister to win a sweeping vote of confidence in the Central Committee.

[Golan] Sir, to go back for a moment to relations with the United States, we have heard about reservations and criticism in Washington about the expulsion of the eight Palestinians to Lebanon. Can you confirm reports that even before they were deported, the Foreign Ministry warned that the move would trigger anger both in Europe and in the United States?

[Arens] I saw such a headline in the press today. As you know, I am the foreign minister. Had there been such a warning, the foreign minister would presumably have known about it. Yet there was no such warning. This is simply fabricated, proving once again that there are occasional problems with the media, when unfounded reports are published. This report is completely baseless.

Sharon Says Shamir Initiative May Lead to War

TA3006104989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Likud Cabinet Minister Ari'el Sharon says Israel's political initiative will not lead to peace, but more bloodshed and maybe war. Sharon was speaking to a delegation from the Washington Institute for Policy in the Near East. David Essing reports:

[Begin recording] [Essing] Ari'el Sharon says he remains absolutely opposed to the peace initiative as is. He will call on members of the Likud Central Committee to vote against it next week.

[Sharon] I am against this initiative—not against peace; against this initiative—because I do not see that this initiative will bring anything but bloodshed. It will bring more violence. It will bring maybe war.

[Essing] Sharon says the Central Committee members should be enabled to vote in writing for or against the peace initiative and his proposed amendments.

On another subject, Sharon said the country's main problem by the end of the century will be the growing violence of the Israeli Arabs within the Green Line. [end recording]

MAPAM's Granot Returns From Egypt, Comments

TA3006112289 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] [MAPAM—United Workers Party] Secretary General El'azar Granot has returned from Cairo, where he was the guest of the ruling National Democratic Party. Even though he did not meet with President Mubarak, Granot feels that another channel has been opened in relations between Israel and Egypt.

[Begin Granot recording] This visit to Egypt was important simply by virtue of having actually taken place. This is a new dimension in the network of political relations between Israelis and Egyptians. The other dimension, of course, is the governmental sphere. In the political sphere this is a new dimension, and we attribute great importance to it. It is also a fact that the Egyptians considered this visit very important, as evidenced by the wide media coverage given the trip. I assume that everyone noticed that although it may not constitute a breakthrough, this visit does constitute a new dimension in relations. [end recording]

Soviet Aviation Cooperation Talks Under Way

TA3006102989 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 30 Jun 89 p A3

[Report by Haifa-based correspondent Nurit Kahana]

[Excerpt] Transportation Minister Moshe Qatzav has said that the political echelon in the Soviet Union is currently discussing cooperation with Israel on commercial airline flights. This follows a proposal made by Qatzav's ministry to commence such cooperation.

Qatzav was speaking at a news conference at the Haifa port. He stated that talks on commercial flights between Israel and the Soviet Union started 3 months ago, after Aeroflot representatives invited El Al officials to meet in Vienna. The idea is general cooperation on commercial flights and on flights with secondary destinations.

Minister Qatzav added that the very fact that Soviet authorities permitted an El Al jet, leased by the Joint Distribution Committee to transport Armenian earthquake victims, to land on Soviet territory for the first time since 1948 already constitutes a basis for cooperation. Qatzav said: "The flight only took 2 and ½ hours, and we can see just how short the distances between Israel and the Soviet Union really are." [passage omitted]

Justice Ministry Responds to Amnesty Charges

TA2906051189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] The Justice Ministry says that Israel is operating in the territories in accordance with the fourth Geneva Convention. It said Israel's observance of the convention preserves the delicate balance between defending the human rights of the residents and maintaining order under difficult conditions of violence and terror.

This was included in a letter sent by the ministry to Amnesty International, after officials received thousands of appeals from Amnesty members for Israel to reexamine its policies of administrative detention in the territories.

Police Commissioner Fears Spread of Uprising

TA2906173489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] The police inspector general, Commissioner David Kraus, says that the clashes with residents of the territories and East Jerusalem are still worse than clashes with Arabs inside the Green Line. Still, the signs of incitement and the manifestations of hostility are seeping deep into the Israeli Arab sector. Commissioner Kraus anticipates that the destructive influence of the terrorist organizations will penetrate that sector. Our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that Commissioner Kraus was speaking at the graduation ceremony for police command and staff officers held at the Jerusalem Theater.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said on the same occasion that the police have proved their mettle in the tests they had to face over the past 12 months, and withstood missions that not every other police force would be able to handle.

Restrictions on Jordan Crossings Denied

TA3006044289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] The Civil Administration in the territories has denied reports from Jordan that Israel has reduced the number of Palestinians allowed to cross over the bridges from Jordan to the territories. A Voice of Israel reporter quoted Civil Administration sources as saying the number of people crossing the bridges in recent weeks has increased substantially due to the hajj pilgrimage and the summer holidays.

Al-Saftawi Postpones Trip To Brief PLO

TA2906165989 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 29 Jun 89 pp 1, 11

[Excerpt] Gaza—As'ad al-Saftawi, principal of the Al-Burayj boys' primary school in Gaza, has postponed his trip abroad because the Israeli military authorities have not permitted him to hold contacts with Palestinian officials in the PLO to brief them about his 11-point peace plan.

In a statement to AL-FAJR, Al-Saftawi said that he made this decision after he was convinced that his trip abroad would be useless. He added: "I applied for permission to travel abroad in order to brief the PLO about my plan, to discuss it with them, and to urge them to accept it. I had no other objective for the visit."

He added: "My personal views are worthless as long as they do not receive the PLO's consent. I am a part [juz'] of the PLO, and I adhere to what it says."

Al-Saftawi continued: "Since the authorities will not allow me to meet with Palestinian officials, this trip would not contribute to advancing the peace process and would be pointless." [passage omitted]

'Fatah Terrorist' Squads Uncovered; Homes Razed

TA2906162989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] The security forces have uncovered two Fatah terrorist squads in Judaea and Samaria. Their members planted many bombs in Israel and in Judaea. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] today demolished the homes of four of the squad members: Two in Tuqu' and another two in Zawiyah.

One squad planted many explosive charges in the Petah Tiqva and Pardes Katz areas. A member of this squad was injured approximately 2 weeks ago when a bomb he was trying to plant in Tel Aviv exploded in his hands.

Another squad whose members activated roadside bombs against IDF patrols and Israeli civilian vehicles on the Efrat-Teqo'a highway, and planted a bomb in Jerusalem's Liberty Bell Garden approximately 1 month ago was uncovered in Tuqu', which is in the Bethlehem region. Some squad members were recruited and trained in Jordan. Upon their return to the territories, they recruited other members. Defense establishment sources have praised the security services for uncovering the squads.

Megiddo Prison Riot Quelled by Tear Gas 30 Jun

TA3006104389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Guards at the Megiddo military prison had to use tear gas this morning to quell a disturbance by a number of prisoners. The Arab prisoners, held in one of the compounds, began demonstrating early this morning and set fire to a number of tents. Guards on the scene were reinforced and used tear gas to end the demonstration. Eight prisoners were treated afterwards for tear gas inhalation.

Casualties Reported Following 'Clashes' 29 Jun

TA3006090589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 30 Jun 89 p 18

[Report by Kenneth Kaplan and Mikhal Sela']

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Palestinians yesterday staged a strike to protest against "vigilante" attacks by settlers. In yesterday's West Bank clashes, troops shot and wounded five Palestinians in the Balatah refugee camp, and one in 'Ashiran al-Qirliyah. In the Gaza Strip, soldiers wounded two people in Bayt Hanun, two in Gaza and one in al-Nusayrat, according to Palestinian sources. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] reported that two residents were hurt in the al-Shati' camp.

[Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 30 June in a report by Mikhal Qedem on page 5 reports that "the military court in Gaza yesterday sentenced Fatima Abu-Bakr, a 33-year-old woman from Khan Yunus, to 7 years imprisonment. Abu-Bakr also received a 5-year suspended sentence." The paper adds that "she was convicted, on the basis of her own confession, of harboring ammunition stockpiles that belonged to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine led by George Habash."]

King Husayn on U.S.-PLO Talks, Shamir Plan

JN2906130389 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Washington—His Majesty King Husayn has urged the United States to engage the PLO in more serious talks and rein in extremist elements in Israel. President Bush is the right man under the right set of circumstances to bring about a peace settlement between the Arabs and Israel. And if Bush cannot pull it off no one can, His Majesty added.

In an interview with THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, his majestey noted that, having visited the region and thus become aware of its pitfalls, Bush is better acquainted with its problems than former presidents. In contrast to President Bush, former President Reagan sent his foreign minister [to the Middle East] and let slip numerous chances to make progress toward peace. His majesty the king said his Washington visit has convinced him of the need to move forward not only on the part of President Bush and his secretary of state but on the part of Jewish Americans as well.

His majesty called the elections proposal put forward by Israeli Prime Minister Shamir vague and cannot possibly be taken seriously. His majesty asked who will be elected and to what end. The Israeli Government has as yet to spell out which Palestinians will be allowed to vote and what kind of role the elected representatives will have, his majesty added. Israel is mistaken if it thinks that the elections are a means to create a new leadership discrete from the PLO, the king said, adding that this will never happen since the Palestinians are alert to all attempts designed to spilt their ranks.

His majesty the king declared that the legal and administrative disengagement with the West Bank has had a chain reaction and produced a realistic and responsible Palestinian stand. It has also had the effect of eliminating any doubts as to Jordan's intentions toward the West Bank. It has also removed any mistrust. If we are to have a meaningful future relationship it must be built on solid foundations, his majesty said.

His majesty said he was worried about the escalating conflict in Lebanon and added that all foreign forces must pull out from the country. He added: We have reached the last moment at which something can be done.

Paper on EC Statement, Palestinian 'Moderation'

JN2906124489 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 29 Jun 89 p 20

["Last Stop" column by Mu'nis al-Razzaz: "Touchstone"]

[Text] For the first time, EC leaders have raised the issue of the necessary PLO participation in a peace conference to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict. Translating this resolution into a practical reality must be crystallized by adopting a procedural and practical stand aimed to exercise pressure on Israel and deepen its isolation.

What is also required is pressure by the European states on the U.S. Administration to take a positive attitude toward the international peace conference.

The moderate road and flexible approach adopted by the Palestinian people and their legitimate representative are not without limits. If the Palestinian Arab people and their sole and legitimate representative do not achieve positive results at the end of this road, and if they do not reap the fruits of their struggle, the Palestinian people will opt for a more stubborn and intransigent approach.

This opportunity provided by the Palestinian Arab people for peace and for the world will not be repeated. It is a test, which, if it fails or is not seized upon by the influential and powerful world countries, it will be stupid to blame and rebuke the Palestinian Arab people for resorting to intransigence and bitter anger.

The persecuted Palestinian Arab people give themselves and the world an opportunity for peace which does not meet with the Palestinians' overall objectives. Yet, the Palestinian people have given the world this opportunity. But we and the whole world know that opportunities are not eternal or everlasting. If the international community does not make an effective move, and if the Palestinians do not reap the fruits of their moderate trend, they will undoubtedly resort to a bitter and angry approach. The moderation option is, therefore, undergoing a test. Extremism is not a commodity limited to the Israelis. Intransigence is not a trade whose mastery is limited to the Jews. This is what the international community must understand especially since opportunities do not last forever.

Increasing Emigration to U.S. Viewed

JN2906120689 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 28 Jun 89 p 13

[By Jawdat Nashkhu and Ghadah Abu-Yusuf]

[Excerpts] Securing the future, improving income, searching for a job—all these are economic reasons behind the emigration phenomenon.

Anyone passing between the second and third circles in Jabal 'Amman will see outside the U.S. Consulate a long queue of people seeking to emigrate.

Eighteen thousand citizens were given 5-year visitors visas during the past year and 20,000 visas were issued this year.

Undoubtedly, the homeland stands to lose greatly by the emigration of these citizens, especially since most of them are youths on whom great sums of money have been spent to educate and qualify them.

There are, it is said, many reasons for the emigration of those citizens; however, searching for a job and securing the future are the main reasons.

AL-DUSTUR has met with a number of those citizens in order to find out the reasons that prompt them to try to emigrate. It also met with a number of specialists and researchers to ask them their opinions and positions on this emigration process.

Al-Haj Ahmad Kayid 'Aqil is a citizen in his sixties and he is wearing a white headdress. I met while he was coming out of the embassy building. I asked him to follow me into the shade of a tree on the opposite pavement, where we could talk. At first he hesitated, and then smiled and welcomed the invitation when he realized I was a journalist who wanted to interview him on the subject of emigration.

We sat on the "wall" of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

I said: Haj, Did you get a visa?

He said: Yes. He took out his passport to show me the visa, the date indicated that it is valid for 5 years.

I said: What made you apply for a visa?

He said: Son, I am a farmer from Kafr Yuba—this old man reminded me of Kafr Yuba, that peaceful village in Irbid governorate which is renowned for its crops, particularly tomatoes and watermelons. I remembered that I had visited it 15 years ago and seen its green plains. I hope its plains will always remain green.

Al-Haj 'Aqil continued: I own 50 dunums of unirrigated agricultural land. Now I cannot plant them due to the lack of water, the meagerness of economic resources, and the small production output. Hence, you find me here thinking about leaving Kafr Yuba, which I love and where I spent my youth.

I asked him: Do you have any relatives in the United States who can receive and help you?

He said: Yes. I have cousins there, and they will certainly help.

I said: Do you have enough money for the trip and to pay for your expenses there, especially since you have a visitor's visa and not a work visa?

He said: As for the expenses, "God will find us a way." As for the visitor's visa, everybody gets a visitor's visa and "finds a way there." As for me, I will do anything, provided I keep my self-respect and don't lose my dignity."

And then I asked jokingly: "Won't you miss your family?" Also jestingly, he said: "Never mind this nonsense. I will marry an old American woman," and as if he remembered that he is coming back to his home village Kafr Yuba, he said: "Of course I am joking. Believe me, no matter where I may go in the world, I will never take off my Arab headdress and will never become a foreigner. I shall continue to remember Kafr Yuba and its neighborhoods as well as the dish of hummos and al-falafil."

Citizen A. M. S. is a 30-year-old who supports 14 persons. Asked about the reasons prompting him to seek an entry visa to the United States, he said in real spontaneity: "Straitened circumstances. Having been jobless for the past 3 years, I have incurred debts of over JD [Jordanian dinars] 4,000. I have heard that the American Embassy is making it easy to go the United States, and so I came to try my luck."

I asked if this is the first time he has sought a visa. It is the second. Many of those who had no luck the first time are luckier the second time around. How well was he prepared to meet the travel expenses and stay in the United States? "I will borrow the money and pay it back when I find work." Asked whether he will settle down permanently in the United States, he said, "If I am lucky enough to find work, I will send for my family and settle in America; my material status and debts make it impossible for me to return as a failure." I asked him his opinion about the question of belonging to the land and homeland. "Belonging is sacrosanct," he said, "but under the economic circumstances I have described, what can I do? Find me a job that pays JD 100 and I promise you I will stay put."

I asked about the requirements for issuing a visa. The embassy requires that an applicant be in possession of real estate, land, or a trade operation, he said. An applicant must also prove that he has a decent amount of money and that he has some acquaintances and relatives in the United States. Another requirement is that the applicant for a visa must produce a voucher issued by a bank that he is capable of paying his way. I asked whether he meets the requirements. He said these conditions can be met and do not constitute an obstacle.

Citizen M. A. H. is a 25-year-old man—single and eager to travel. It is his straitened financial condition that determined him to seek a visa. He has been changing jobs over the past 3 years. He has not held a job for more than 5 months over that period. "I have accumulated debts and naturally I had to try to think of a solution. When I heard that the American Embassy grants visas, I came here like other people hoping for a visa. I know from friends there about living conditions in the United States, and yet I am determined to give it a try."

I asked about travel and stay expenses. He will somehow manage, he said. He now has JD 400. In any case, his friends there will lend a hand in finding a job for him with some Arab businessmen. Being relatively young, he can make a fresh start and adapt easily and quickly. "Besides, it will not be too difficult for me to have my status changed from visitor to resident." [passage omitted]

Citizen M. S. is 19. He is an architecture student at a community college in the Irbid area. He declined to reveal his name because he does not want his parents to know that he is leaving for the United States. When I asked him about the purpose of his travel to the United States he said: "I do not believe that I will have a job opportunity after I graduate from college. Therefore, I intend to travel and continue my studies in another field—linguistics. I am aware that college fees in the United States are very high, but I will manage. I will work and complete my studies. My trip does not mean that I am emigrating for good."

On the cost of his travel and stay, he said that his trip from Amman to the United States will be guaranteed if he gets a visa because "my brother in the United States will send me the ticket. I have also raised $1,000 despite the economic difficulties." [passage omitted]

I asked Youth Minister Dr 'Awad Khulayfat his opinion about the tens of thousands of Jordanians who are attracted to the United States. After a long pause, the minister said:

"Despite the fact that the Youth Ministry is not directly connected with this subject, I have heard that many Jordanians are emigrating or traveling to the United States, Australia, and Canada.

"As a ministry, we have always exerted our utmost to bind Jordanian expatriates to their homeland. We consider them our ambassadors and we do not want to lose them.

"The ministry supplies these expatriates with pamphlets to preserve their spiritual connection to the homeland. We do not want to become estrangement from them, and we want them to be spiritually involved with what is happening in their homeland and to help solve the problems of Jordanian society. As we take care of our youths at home, we also take care of them abroad in accordance with our modest resources. We hope that connections with our sons wll be strengthened further in the future." [passage omitted]

On the effect of emigration on society and national security, Dr Hasan al-Mawmani of the University of Jordan's scientific research department said:

"In general the process of emigration has both postitive and negative aspects. On the positive side, we may say that emigration represents ambition and an effort to secure better living conditions. Emigration is a long-term process to exploit human resources, experience, determination, and ambition. Emigration helps build one's character in all aspects. It may be intended to make a living or acquire knowledge, and both are indubitably good.

"As for the negative aspects, emigration will empty the homeland of its basic human resources, especially the young, able-bodied elements, who society's most important wealth and resource. Another thing is the loss of an energetic work force. This can be understood from the saying that the youths are the symbol of strength, vitality, and genuine contribution to building society." [passage omitted]

Economic Difficulties Result of 'Hostile Schemes'

JN2906163089 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Amman—His Majesty King Husayn has said that the hard economic circumstances through which Jordan is passing are not the result of a situation that has crystallized in a short period of time but of hostile schemes that targeted security and order in this country, which is an extension of the Arab order.

His majesty the king added: The enemies always wagered that this country, considering its circumstances and material resources, is the one expected to make concessions at the expense of its nation, honor, and dignity. God be praised, this has not happened and will not happen, as Jordan has not bargained over land and right and will never do so. We have always been ready to die and to prevent it from being recorded that my person or any national of this country bargained over Jerusalem, which is the property of Arabs and Muslims.

During a meeting at the Royal Hashemite Court today with the Senate president and members as well as the media community, his majesty the king went on to say: Despite the hard circumstances through which we are passing—considering that we previously passed through harder circumstances—I am reassured and confident that we will get through this hard phase with the cooperation of the sons of the family and the support of the Arab brothers. During my meetings with citizens during my recent visits, I sensed the level of the awareness that they enjoy and the nationalist sentiments that they are harboring to the effect that we all cherish our country and that we have to bear all difficulties and challenges to get through this phase.

His majesty the king affirmed that Jordan enjoys a standing and influence greater in magnitude than its size, the area of its land, and its population.

His Majesty King Husayn reviewed the measures that have been taken to get through the current phase through which Jordan is passing, foremost of which is to draw up sound bases for the work of the Central Bank of Jordan [CBJ] enabling the CBJ to enjoy total independence and absolute freedom to bring about an increase in its foreign currency reserves—a matter that will lead to stabilizing the exchange rate of the dinar and realistically restoring confidence in it. The stability of the exchange rate of the dinar is an essential and an objective that will be attained at the earliest possible time.

His majesty the king also indicated that Jordan will soon witness the return of parliamentary life based on full exercise of the right to run for elections, vote, and respect the Constitution. He added: This will allow all Jordanians to shoulder their responsibilities and participate in building the homeland. Jordan will work to draw up a national charter based on the pan-Arab and historical perspective, which we inherited from our fathers and forefathers, and also from the principles of the Great Arab Revolt.

His Majesty King Husayn affirmed the importance of focusing on civic education and preparing youths by acquainting them with the history and march of their country and the Great Arab Revolt so that they will be prepared to perform their roles in the best possible manner.

His Majesty King Husayn called for fostering dialogue and enhancing contacts with all parties within the framework of the one Jordanian family to which we belong.

During the meeting, his majesty the king reviewed the historic role played by Jordan as well as the pan-Arab policy that it has been pursuing in its defense of Arab land and the Arab nation's causes, foremost among which is the Palestine question.

His Majesty the king said: The founder king [King 'Abdallah] managed, through his jihad along with his kinfolk and Arab brothers throughout the Arab homeland, to spare this part of the Arab homeland the fate envisaged for it in the scheme that sought to establish a Jewish state not only on Palestinian territory, but also on our land.

Central Bank Chief on Increasing Intervention

JN2906152389 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] During a meeting today with directors of banks and financial firms, the governor of the Central Bank of Jordan [CBJ], Dr Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi, announced that from the day after tomorrow [1 July] the CBJ will begin to intervene in the market to influence the dinar's rate against foreign currencies to achieve a stable price for the dinar in all markets. Dr al-Nabulsi said that, among other things, the intervention will include selling dollars to banks and financial firms so that they can meet the public's need for foreign currencies to pay for education and medical treatment abroad and for the pilgrimage. The banks are to sell foreign currencies for these purposes at the official rate.

The governor said the CBJ will step up its intervention to be compatible with market developments and customer response. He was confident that CBJ will extend the scope of this intervention and make it more widespread and effecitve over the coming few months. He indicated that a real and promising potential exists to boost the kingdom's foreign exchange revenue various sources as a result of the corrective program agreed with the IMF, Arab assistance, and new measures securing an increased flow of foreign exchange over and above the traditional routes.

Dr al-Nabulsi said the CBJ is now looking into the possibility of supplying the banks and financial firms with the foreign exchange required to meet some of their export needs.

'Awn Says Lebanese 'Collapse' Imminent

NC3006053189 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn has stated that Lakhdar Ibrahimi, Arab League assistant secretary general, had almost announced the failure of his efforts because of Syria's intransigence.

In a statement to the French newspaper LE FIGARO, Gen 'Awn indicated that Lebanon, which is trying to spare the world the plagues of terrorism, narcotics, and piracy, is now about to collapse under the weight of the Syrian occupation. 'Awn criticized the lack of international support for his attempt to end the smuggling of narcotics through the illegal ports.

Deported Palestinians Arrive in Zahlah 29 Jun

NC2906173589 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Excerpts] The number of Palestinian citizens deported by the Israeli occupation authorities since 8 December 1987 reached 55 today with the deportation of a further eight persons. The Israeli ocupation authorities implemented a decision this afternoon to deport eight heroes of the Palestinian intifadah [uprising]. [passage omitted]

According to the deportees, the occupation authorities transported them handcuffed and blindfolded from prison in military vehicles. They arrived at the Hawwarah camp near Nabulus at 1400 today. An Israeli helicopter then took them to Hasbayya, from where they were taken to the Zummarayya crossing point. The deportees stated that Southern Lebanese Army soldiers manhandled and insulted some of them. The deportees were later taken in civilian cars to the Lebanese Army checkpoint in Marj al-Zuhur. From there, they were moved to the Red Cross center in Ksarah, near Zahlah.

Syrians Tanks Cross Border En Route to Beirut

NC2906162589 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] According to reports received by Radio Free Lebanon, a convoy of Syrian tanks crossed the Syrian-Lebanese border on the al-Masna' road this afternoon. The convoy headed toward Shtawrah on its way to Beirut and the mountain area.

Failed Attempt To Smuggle Out 2 Hostages Reported

NC3006065689 Beirut AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic 18 Jun 89 p 58

[From the "Last Moment" page]

[Text] An attempt to smuggle two foreign hostages out of the southern suburb at a time when it was completely engaged in receiving condolences on the death of Ayatollah Khomeyni had to be aborted.

Hizballah Radio Comments on Oran Resolutions

NC3006091289 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Political commentary]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Some people believe that the Oran summit decisions on the Lebanese political problem are a sign that the Lebanese crisis has been placed on the right track for settlement and that comprehensive solutions will fall into place one after another, just like a game of dominoes. These people believe that a summit involving the rulers of Hejaz and Morocco and the Algerian president must be effective, particularly when international parties speak about absolute support for all the efforts of these rulers.

What escapes those who hold this view is that the Oran declaration is a travesty of the current situation, and will remain so as long as the decisions continue to deal with the regional aspect of the problem without touching on the internal Lebanese aspect. The dispatch of high-level delegations to Baghdad and Damascus to discuss the decisions and to get these capitals' approval, while envoy Lakhdar Ibrahimi is asked to continue to shuttle between the two sectors of Beirut, means that Oran has failed to create a miracle. This is a replay of the old ways with the same faces. We do not deny the foreign influence on Lebanon, but the implication that inter-Arab differences are the root of the problem and that the international involvement, to which the political plan of political Maronitism is linked, has no bearing on the problem reminds us of the role played by Jewish rabbis in absolving the Roman ruler of responsibility for the blood of Christ, peace be on him.

The Arab rabbis, particularly the Saudi Fahd and Ifrane's [Moroccan town] Hassan, want to absolve Washington and the Zionist entity of responsibility for the blood of the Lebanese people and show that Arab differences have set this country on fire. This is not to say that the Arabs, or some of them, are completely innocent. What we mean is that inter-Arab differences, specifically those between Syria and Iraq, were among the reasons for the continuation of the crisis and not its original cause. [passage omitted]

It can now be said that the Oran meeting can possibly freeze the crisis at a certain level in line with the U.S. moves and interests in the region but it cannot solve it, particularly when we see that the parties in the eastern part of Beirut have started, even before the ink on the summit decisions has dried, to erect obstacles. This was also done in line with the U.S. moves and interests in the region. This means that there cannot be a Lebanese solution in the absence of signs of a solution to the regional crisis. Thus, the Oran meeting is not a cause for optimism because we have learned from the past that all Israeli plans and Arab summits and committees are mere U.S. facades meant to keep the U.S. fingers from being

burned by fire and allow the Americans to remain outside the ring of competition. This ensures that they will continue to hold all the cards in the region and in Lebanon.

Army Positions, Jubayl Coasts Under Fire

NC3006092389 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb in the mountain have been coming under artillery bombardment from the positions held by Syrian occupation forces and their collaborators on the opposite side since 1015 today. The Syrian attacks later expanded to Dahr al-Wahsh combat lines where artillery shells have been falling sporadically since 1100.

The Jubayl coast came under intermittent artillery shelling from Syrian positions in the north from 0945 to 1100.

Meanwhile, the town of Anan in Jazzin area came under 107-mm rocket fire at 0840 today. Also 82-mm mortars, fired from the positions of extremist gunmen, fell on Kafr Falus front. A South Lebanese Army position was attacked with automatic weapons and rockets at 0600 today. The personnel manning the position returned fire.

3 Killed, 23 Wounded

NC3006050289 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Four persons were wounded during the Syrian shelling of the Kasrawan coast at approximately 2300 last night. Shortly before midnight last night, the northern al-Matn coast and the vicinity of Beirut port were shelled, while the Jubayl coast was shelled at 0400 and 0600 this morning.

According to preliminary information 3 persons were killed and 19 others wounded in East and West Beirut in attacks on residential areas in northern and southern al-Matn, al-Ashrafiyah, al-Tahwitah, al-Batrun hills, and the Kasrawan and Jubayl coasts. The attacks, which also involved the traditional combat lines in Beirut and its southern suburb, led to the closure of the Museum-al-Barbir crossing point, which is the only line of communication between the two sectors of Beirut.

Meanwhile, the South Lebanese Army command in the south has threatened to shell the port of Sidon and the government house in the city as of this morning if Jazzin is not given its share of subsidized flour for the months of June and July.

'Violent Clashes' Reported 29 Jun

NC2906173089 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Michel 'Awn's militiamen sparked off a flareup in the security situation today along the lines at the Mueseum-al-Barbir crossing point. Violent clashes continued until this afternoon. Two persons were killed and several others were injured. In addition, a fire broke out in the al-Barbir Hospital. [passage omitted]

VOL: President Al-Asad Undergoes 'Health Setback'
NC2906143789 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1425 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Travelers from Damascus have cited medical sources in the Syrian capital as saying that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad underwent a health setback [naksah sihhiyah] at noon yesterday. He is now receiving delicate treatment [mu'aljah daqiqah] from a team of doctors, according to the sources.

Al-Asad Receives Libya's Jallud 29 Jun
JN2906155289 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1540 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Damascus, 29 Jun (SANA)—President Hafiz al-Asad received Major 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September revolution in Libya, at 1730 today. Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam attended the meeting.

The talks dealt with the situation in the region and in the Arab arena, and bilateral relations.

Commentary on 'Vision' of Lebanon Committee
JN2906171789 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Political commentary]

[Text] The three-member Arab higher committee has once again underscored its wholesome vision of the Lebanese situation and its sound approach to the country's internecine strife to save it from its painful tragedy. The committee, a by-product of the Arab summit in Casablanca, is working according to the Arab consensus represented by the Arab summit resolutions calling for consolidating Lebanon's Arab character and the integrity of its people and territory and introducing political reform to its system to ensure justice and equity among all the country's population.

Once again the need is reiterated for a solution that addresses the underlying causes of the crisis, namely an anachronistic, defective political system. The country needs a settlement based on political reforms brought about by a dialogue among all the Lebanese to move them to national accord and a definitive settlement. Only by uprooting the fundamental causes of the Lebanese malaise can a solution be found—something opposed by the isolationist clique. It goes without saying that only from such bases can an Arab-sponsored solution be attempted—a solution that meets the ambitions of the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese and Arabs; ensures Lebanon's integrity, independence, and the liberation of its southern part from Israeli occupation; and safeguards its Arab affiliation and pan-Arab identity. This is the sort of solution that can save Lebanon from the greed and vested interests of isolated factions that represent only themelves and act in league with the Israeli scheme to dismember and fragment Lebanon. Past experience has shown them to be opposed to any initiative set out to enforce the consensus among the Lebanese.

The isolationist clique, which does not perceive reforms to be in line with its interests, yesterday rejected the draft of the statement issued by the three-man committee. Previously, it had dismissed all attempts at solutions that have seemed possible. Under the circumstances, this clique will persist in blocking any Lebanese or Arab-sponsored solution and will continue to work to bring things to a head and sustain the crisis by being implacably inimical to Arab-sponsored reforms and solutions. It thus becomes imperative that this clique be removed and its subversive role in the Lebanese arena brought to an end. It will then become possible to promote a nationalist solution; restore normalcy under a system of justice and equality for all the country's communities; and safeguard its territorial integrity, the unity of its people, and its pan-Arab association.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Seeks To End Party Factionalism

BK3006070989 Hong Kong AFP in English 0428 GMT 30 Jun 89

[By Kate Webb]

[Text] Kabul, June 30 (AFP)—Afghan President Najibullah is trying to put a radically new shape on his People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), taking advantage of the unexpected resilience shown by the party since the Soviet troop withdrawal.

In a move described as "risky," Mr. Najibullah has made factionalism a taboo word, and signalled that he wants an end to almost 13 years of mass jailings and killings of one branch of the party by another.

Many outside the party look at the initiative with dismay while others inside the party, hail it as the only way to go.

Even Soviet Ambassador to Afghanistan Yuliy Vorontsov, a self-professed admirer of Mr. Najibullah's growing political maturity, says the move has risks, if not now, for the party's future.

Defactionalization has been a slow process since last year, but the most telling step in the direction of party unity was Saturday's shock announcement on national television that Mr. Najibullah had appointed Mahmud Barialay, brother of Babrak Karmal, as first deputy prime minister.

Mr. Karmal was Mr. Najibullah's predecessor and is considered here to be the man most responsible for the introduction of Soviet troops in 1979.

Mr. Barialay's precise functions were not made clear in the announcement, but top level sources say his main responsibility will be to oversee transportation to and from the Soviet Union, lifeline of the Najibullah regime.

In this capacity, he could make frequent trips to Moscow, where Mr. Karmal has been living in exile since Mr. Najibullah replaced him in 1986. But Mr. Vorontsov said this week that there was no possibility of Mr. Karmal's return.

The Barialay move, in addition to the rehabilitation of a number of leading Khalq figures, seems a clear signal from Mr. Najibullah on the post-withdrawal future of the party—that all factions will be treated equally on condition that they accept his policy of national reconciliation.

The Khalq faction is broadly identified with the early and bloody Noor Muhammad Taraki/Hafizullah Amin years of the 1978 communist revolution in Afghanistan and is stronger in the Armed Forces than in the civil service.

The move came as people waited nervously to see if Mr. Barialay's appointment meant a return to a harder, more pro-Soviet party line at a time when the government has repeatedly said it wants to move towards a broad-based neutral government, albeit with heavy economic dependence on the Soviet Union.

Government spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani told foreign journalists Sunday that Mr. Barialay had been arrested several months ago along with other hardliners because he had opposed reconciliation talks with the mujahidin and favoured "the military option."

Now, he said, Mr. Barialay had seen the error of his ways and was in favour of the party platform—national reconciliation.

With factionalism a taboo word, comment on the party's new path is hard to come by.

One senior Army general, who like thousands of party members has spent time in Kabul's Pule Charki jail because of past bitter factionalism, says he believes Mr. Najibullah is a true party neutral and that his policy is working at least for now.

The general said that party posts and privileges, government and Army positions are being given without prejudice.

However, he and two other party members conceded that old party grievances and rivalries could resurface, though Mr. Vorontsov is convinced that they will be less destructive than in the past.

Most observers here agree that differences are unlikely to tear the party apart right now, as the party is flush with their success in keeping the mujahidin at bay in the four crucial months after the Soviet withdrawal.

The realisation that Mr. Najibullah's own political future depends on a strong united party, adds weight to his efforts and to his credibility, they said.

But some of the uneasiness in Kabul centres less on whether party factionalism will resurface over the new policy, but whether a strong united party could lead to abandoning national reconciliation—or efforts to talk to the mujahidin as equals.

Some also fear that the mujahidin—having watched the post-withdrawal state of emergency declaration February 19 with the last non-party members hastily removed from Kabul's ministries—will be less inclined to deal with an all-party, and at least superficially more pro-Soviet government.

In past weeks, Mr. Najibullah has repeatedly stressed that the party's only goal is national reconciliation. There can be no other way, he said last week, at the first major meeting of generals and top commanders since February.

Past history, he said, had taught the government and the Soviet Union, that there is no military solution to the Afghan war.

One senior government figure said party consolidation was a necessary step "forced on the president" in the partial vaccuum left by the withdrawal.

Soviet civilian and military supplies still pour into Kabul by road and by air every day.

He said the consolidation would be followed by negotiations and concrete moves towards a broad-based government and hopefully peace in Afghanistan.

"We will have to wait and see. I have stayed all during the war, Afghanistan is my country, but not if the party goes hardline again, I may be looking for a place to live," a senior non-communist academic said here.

Said one observer: "He knows we are back to a civil war, the same war that existed before the Soviet intervention in 1979, and he knows that party factionalism has been responsible for tearing the country apart, and in part for the Soviet troop presence."

Clashes Among Rebel Groups Detailed

LD3006055389 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Armed clashes between extremists supported by Pakistan over the distribution of plundered property have intensified.

The military section of the BIA reported that as a result of clashes in the environs of Khowst major district between men attached to the Gulbuddin and Khalis groups, a number of men were either killed or injured. Two ringleaders, (Jamil) Yusofzay and (Lalbaz), are among those killed.

The security situation in other parts of the country is generally calm and the units and sub-units of the armed forces are engaged in training and in further enhancing their combat preparedness.

Latest Casualties in Jalalabad Fighting Reported

LD3006091389 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, June 29, BAKHTAR—The extremists gangs by firing rockets damaged one mosque in Jalalabad city and wounded four children in the surroundings of Paktia and Herat Provinces on June 27, report our military correspondents.

As a result of the government armed forces attack, 30 extremists were killed and 34 wounded. Large amounts of arms and munitions of the enemy were seized.

A ring-leader named Nangyalai [name as received], a number of Pakistani militarists and mercenaries of Saudi Arabia were among those killed. Likewise, during the operations, six recoilless cannons, eight mortars, two machine guns, three arms depots and a stronghold of the enemy were also demolished.

Based on another report, three children were wounded in Gardeyz city, center of Paktia Province on June 28, as a result of the criminal acts of the extremists.

Nine rebels were killed and twelve others sustained injuries as a result of the mopping up operations carried out by the armed forces. Four extremists were also captured alive along with their weapons in that province.

Two personnel of the armed forces were martyred and three others wounded in the operations.

Mujahidin Commander Killed

BK2906141689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1406 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Islamabad, June 29 (AFP)—An important Afghan rebel commander in eastern Nangarhar Province was killed and 24 mujahidin injured in intensified fighting around the city of Jalalabad, resistance sources said Thursday.

'Abdul Hadi of the Hezb-e Eslami resistance faction, led by fundamentalist Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, was killed late Wednesday during fighting with Afghan Government forces in Adamkhel area of Surkh Rud District, the sources said.

The 38-year-old commander, who was an engineering student in Kabul in 1977, had been leading mujahidin forces for several years in Surkh Rud, located 10 kilometers west of Jalalabad, they added.

In separate incidents, seven people were killed when the Afghan Army launched attacks on mujahidin positions around Jalalabad, the sources said. Two men, two women and a child died when a missile hit a farm east of the city.

In another attack, Afghan artillery completely destroyed Akhund Kalai, a village of some 20 houses in Chaparhar District, 10 kilometers south of Jalalabad, killing two people, the sources said.

According to unconfirmed reports, Kabul troops were planning an all-out offensive to retake the Torkham border post with Pakistan.

Quoting informed sources in Kabul, a resistance source said the Afghan Defence Ministry had ordered troops under General Asif Dilawar [name as received] in Jalalabad, 75 kilometers west of Torkham, to lead the offensive.

The fall of Torkham in November had facilitated a smooth flow of U.S. arms and food supplies to mujahidin forces through Pakistan.

The mujahidin launched a major offensive against Jalalabad in early March but poor coordination among rebel groups and a lack of weapons required for conventional war hampered their efforts.

Wakil Addresses Nonaligned Ministers

LD3006084489 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, 29, BAKHTAR—'Abdul Wakil, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan (RA) delivered his speech on June 27 at the extraordinary session at the foreign affairs ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement on peace and international rights.

Wakil in his speech, which was warmly welcomed by the participants, stressed on the need of the implementation of international agreements and documents, as well as multilateral and bilateral documents.

'Abdul Wakil stated that, Afghanistan as a country which is targetted the overt interferences of Pakistan and its supporters, seriously is in favour of that the Geneva accords as a basic element of ensurance of peace in the war-torn country of Afghans be precisely observe by Pakistan and should put an end to its violations from this authoritative international document. [sentence as received]

Wakil stressed that I [as received] demand this authoritative international gathering to seek ways for the complete implementation of the Geneva accords and drew the attention of the violators to their mistakes.

According to another report, 'Abdul Wakil participated in a banquet arranged by Beatrice, Queen of the Netherlands in honour of the heads of the delegations participated in the extraordinary session of Antananarivo.

Criticizes U.S. Envoy Decision

LD3006022789 Moscow TASS in English 1424 GMT 28 Jun 89

[Text] The Hague June 29 TASS—Visiting Afghan Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil said in the Hague that the United States decision to appoint a special representative to the so-called "transitional government" of Afghan rebels formed in Pakistan violates the Geneva accords.

He also said that the U.S. decision on this "puppet government formed abroad" represents a "gross violation of norms of international relations and universally recognised norms of international law." One hundred and twenty-five military centres to train armed extremists still exist in Pakistan and they are constantly being supplied with modern arms and ammunition. The 11th and 18th Pakistani Regular Army Divisions and Saudi Arabian mercenaries have taken part in extremist attacks on the cities of Qandahar, Khowst and Jalalabad, Wakil said.

Bangladesh

Foreign Minister Hopes for Early SAARC Meeting

BK2906162689 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Bangladesh hopes that the postponed meeting of the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] Council of Ministers will take place as early as possible. This was stated by Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud in Dhaka today while commenting on the postponement of the meeting scheduled to begin in Islamabad on Saturday next. He said circumstances that led to the postponement of the meeting are undesirable, but efforts must be made for an early convening of the meeting. While we appreciate the concern of Sri Lanka, this should not have stood on the way of its participation in the Islamabad meeting.

The foreign minister said although bilateral matters are not to be discussed at SAARC meeting—in accordance with the charter of the organization—such issues have been informally discussed in the past and, thus, help remove misgivings and forge greater understanding among the member nations.

PLO's Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Dhaka 29 Jun

BK2906161489 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Palestinian Liberation Organization Chairman Yasir 'Arafat was given a warm welcome when he arrived in Dhaka this afternoon on a short visit. President Ershad received him at the airport. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud and members of the Palestinian community in Dhaka were among others present at the airport. President Ershad escorted the PLO chief to the lounge of the VVIP [Very Very Important Person] terminal where the two leaders spent some time and exchange views on various issues of common concern and mutual interest.

From the airport, the president himself drove Mr 'Arafat to the state guesthouse—Karatola—where the PLO chief will be staying during the visit.

India

Nepal Agrees to Proposal for Bilateral Talks

BK2906161989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Nepal has agreed to the Indian proposal for talks on all aspects of bilateral relations at a mutually convenient date, but has suggested that the talks be held at Kathmandu. The proposal was made in a letter by the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, to his Nepalese counterpart. The response to the letter was announced in the Nepalese Parliament by [Foreign Minister] Mr Upadhayaya today. He desired that the talks be held at the foreign ministers level.

Spokesman on Reported Colombo-LTTE Agreement

BK2906160689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Commenting to the reported agreement between the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] and the Sri Lankan Army over cessation of hostilities, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry in New Delhi expressed the hope that the LTTE will now take the next logical step of resuming the process of laying down arms as well as working for Tamil unity. He told newsmen that the government has seen reports claiming that the LTTE and the Sri Lankan army have decided on a cessation of hostilities. As is well known, the India-Sri Lanka agreement provides for a cessation of hostilities between the Sri Lankan Army and the Tamil militants. The agreement also provides for the Sri Lankan forces to be confined to their barracks. Both these provisions of the agreement were achieved as soon as the peacekeeping force started arriving in Sri Lanka on 30 July 1987. Since then the Sri Lankan forces have by and large been confined to barracks in the Northeastern Province and there has been an effective cessation of hostilities between the LTTE and the Sri Lankan forces for the last 2 years.

The spokesman said that the only logical significance of yesterday's announcement seems to be that the LTTE has now agreed to give up its demand for Eelam [separate Tamil homeland] and has accepted Sri Lanka's unity and integrity as provided for in the India-Sri Lanka agreement. India hopes that they will now take the next logical step of resuming the process of laying down arms as well as working for Tamil unity.

Answering queries from newsmen, the spokesman said that issues like withdrawal of the peacekeeping force and other matters must be settled through mutual consultations. He said the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has written to the Sri Lankan president, Mr Premadasa, and a reply is awaited.

Pakistan, CIA Blamed for Kashmir Violence

BK2906153589 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 23 Jun 89 p 1

[Express News Service]

[Text] New Delhi, June 22—The Union Home Minister, Mr Buta Singh, has blamed Pakistan and the US intelligence outfit CIA for the recent spate of violent anti-national activities in Kashmir.

While Pakistan was directly responsible for aiding and abetting anti-national elements in the valley, the CIA was operating through the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), a pro-Pak terrorist group, Mr Buta Singh said in an informal chat with ENS [Express News Service] here on Thursday.

The Home Minister, however, sought to absolve Mrs Benazir Bhutto, Pakistan Prime Minister, of harbouring any ill will towards India. He said she was bound by domestic compulsions in allowing anti-India activities. "Kashmir had all along been mainstay for Pakistani politics," he added.

While stressing that anti-national and terrorist elements would not be allowed to go scot free in the valley, Mr Buta Singh admitted that the Government was facing certain problems in nabbing the persons involved. It was a sensitive issue in the border state which enjoyed a special status, he clarified. Even so, the Home Minister was emphatic that the action plan being implemented by the State and Central security agencies to curb the anti-national and terrorist activities had started showing results. The activities had been largely contained and border infiltration checked effectively. Special check was being kept over three or four sensitive districts in the valley by the special task force jointly set up by the state and the Centre, he said.

Asked how he reacted to the former Chief Minister, Mr G. M. Shah's latest statement that the Kashmir's accession to India was a historical mistake, the Home Minister remarked: "The shows how dubious the man is. He is an utter opportunist and has no principles." At the same time he sought to compliment the people of the state in general as "most secular" in character. He branded Dr Farooq Abdullah, Chief Minister as the "tallest secular leader" of the valley.

4 Killed, 17 Injured in Police Shooting in Assam

BK3006015289 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] In Assam, 4 persons were killed and 17 injured, many of them seriously, when police resorted to firing to disperse a mob which set fire to 17 buses and trucks near Samuguri police station in Nowgong District today [29 June]. The incident occurred when the All-Assam Minority Students Union observed a 36-hour-long

Nowgong District bundh [strike] in protest against the chief election commissioner's recent circular to revise electoral rolls in the state on the basis of 1966 rolls.

One havildar [low-ranking police official] and a conductor of a bus died when a bomb exploded in Kokrajhar District this morning. Another two police subinspectors and a driver of a bus received serious injuries.

Drug Traffickers With International Links Arrested

BK3006080989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] The Narcotics Control Bureau of the Ministry of Finance has arrested two notorious drug traffickers and seized 9.7 kg of heroin packed in ghee [butter oil] tins. In international value, the price of the seized heroin is estimated to be about 10 crore rupees. According to bureau sources, the two drug peddlers have admitted of their links with international gangs.

Iran

Velayati, Iravani Discuss Foreign Policy

NC2906104189 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1800 GMT 28 Jun 89

[Weekly political roundtable with Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Iranian Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance Mohammad Javad Iravani in Tehran; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Moderator] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Greetings to you, dear viewers. Tonight's political roundtable will discuss the visit by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Islamic Majlis and the acting commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and a high-level delegation of political, military and economic officials to the USSR. Here with us are Messrs 'Ali Akbar Velayati, our esteemed foreign minister, and Iravani, minister of economic affairs and finance, who is also the Iranian head of the permanent Soviet-Iranian joint economic cooperation commission. Thank you, gentlemen, for accepting this invitation.

I wish to ask Mr Velayati the first question: The visit to the Soviet Union, it is said, is a practical and complete example of the thesis that a system based on the support of the people can play an independent role in international relations. The presence of 10 million grief-stricken people at the interment rites for the body of the leader of the Islamic revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, was a demonstration of the consolidation of the popular base of the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Undoubtedly these factors played a special role in the success of this visit. Based on your observations, what effect did this have on the Soviet attitude toward the Iranian delegation's visit?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The people's support of the sacred system of the Islamic Republic of Iran is a solid base for all our foreign policy, including that toward the Soviet Union as well as toward other countries. The extraordinary and amazing presence of the loyal and Muslim people at the interment rites for his eminence the imam, may his soul be sanctified, was a most effective manifestation of the steadfastness and cohesion among the people and between the people and the government. In all our actions, and in reciprocal relations in foreign policy, this factor has been decisively effective.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani was treated with the respect accorded to the heads of important, well-known, and influential countries as regards the ceremonial aspect of the visit and its itinerary and substance. His welcome matched those accorded to first-class international visitors. As regards his itinerary, five rounds of talks, two of which were open and three private, took place between Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Mr Gorbachev in less than 48 hours. The nature of the agreements and understanding reached and the communiques and accords signed indicate the high level of the quality of the visit.

[Moderator] When we glance at the joint communique between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Soviet Union, we see certain issues on which the Islamic Republic of Iran is particularly sensitive. For example, it stresses the Islamic nature of Afghanistan, emphasizes on the struggle of the Palestinian people and the just struggle of the people of the Lebanon, condemns apartheid in South Africa, and calls for the establishment of security in the Persian Gulf region or the removal of foreign forces from the Persian Gulf. I wish to ask why the communique was formulated in this way.

[Velayati] It would have been unacceptable to us for it to have been otherwise. Communiques we issue with other countries are also within the same framework. We will either not issue a joint statement or issue one along the lines to which we adhere. Of course, the extraordinary pains taken by our colleagues in the (?preparations) during the weeks preceding the visit about the formulation of this communique, their word-by-word review of its political and legal contents, should not be ignored. After it was drafted it was sent to Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who also made some suggestions. These were noted and incorporated and the communique took on its final form.

In any case, in our foreign relations we adhere to the framework of our principles of foreign policy, and act accordingly.

[Moderator] Mr Iravani, as you were also a member of the Iranian delegation, I wish to ask about your observations on the reaction among Soviet Muslims to the demise of his eminence the imam.

[Iravani] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We can get an idea of this from our visit to Baku in Azerbaijan where we in the Iranian delegation were given a warm reception and saw people wearing black and displaying immense emotion and fervor. They kissed and embraced every member of the Iranian delegation they could see. They expressed their feelings in ways which were realy worth seeing. It had been planned for Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani to deliver a sermon, but the atmosphere prevented him from doing this and in the end he just recited a few prayers. It so happened that when the people were informed that they can come to Iran and visit the mausoleums of Imam Reza, may God's benediction be upon him, and his eminence the imam, I was sitting on one side, and I saw that the people were cheering and seemed very excited. It was a strange affinity we observed among the people there for the imam.

[Moderator] Mr Velayati, one of the reasons behind the opening of a new chapter in Soviet-Iranian relations was Mr Gorbachev's initiation of reforms in various fields in the Soviet Union. There are two views on these reforms. Some think that these will remain at this level. Others feel that these reforms will proliferate and culminate in fundamental changes. In view of your observations in the USSR, how do you assess these two schools of thought and how do you view the future of Gorbachev's (?innovations)?

[Velayati] The realities of the contemporary world are such that if the ideology governing a system is not in harmony with them, they should be able to adapt them to the needs of their own system. If this is not done, countries become riddled by conflicts and contradictions in their efforts to forge ahead in attaining their (?desired) objectives. The appearance of a personality like Mr Gorbachev on the political horizon of the USSR was the main factor behind the realization of the need to adjust to the realities prevailing in today's world and this continues. Had he not appeared, another individual with a similar perspective would have emerged and he would have tackled these realities. We believe that the changes and developments that have taken place in the Soviet Union are not superficial or temporary. However I want to add that it would not be just to attribute the visit's success solely to the changes under way in the Soviet Union or the work done by Mr Gorbachev. This was one of the major and important factors, but not the only factor. Undoubtedly the ever growing importance of the Islamic Republic in the region and in the world of Islam, as well as in the international sphere, played a fundamental role in the developments that have recently taken place between us and the USSR. Since Mr Gorbachev has a special grasp of the realities of the world, he understood the realities in this case as well. Hence it is more an issue of...

[Moderator, interrupting] You mean that it was a case of mutual need in this regard?

[Velayati] It could be considered an assessment of mutual need. On the basis of such an assessment, one usually acts in a way that will benefit one's country.

[Moderator] Mr Velayati, at the recent Arab summit in Casablanca, Morocco, the supporters of the Iraqi regime stressed what they termed Baghdad's rights to Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab waterway]. It appears that they did so to preempt the positive effects they anticipated from the Iranian delegation's visit to Moscow and to undermine to some extent, the possible effect of agreements between Iran and the Soviet Union. What is your view?

[Velayati] Let us look at your first supposition. It was not as if the Arab world at Casablanca had supported Iraq's unlawful demands. The fact is that it was mentioned in the Arab League's resolution that Iraq has rights in the Shatt al-'Arab, but not to the whole Shatt al-'Arab. We do not dispute Iraq's rights in the Shatt al-'Arab. As Iraq has rights in the Arvand Rud, the Islamic Republic also has rights. Nearly half of the Arvand Rud belongs to Iraq and the other part is ours—we say nearly as the demarcation line is the Thalweg which divides waterways but not necessarily down the middle. It marks division through the depth. Both countries have rights in the Shatt al-'Arab. If the rights of Iraq in the Shatt al-'Arab were mentioned and Iranian rights were not mentioned, it does not negate (?our rights). Therefore there is nothing specific in favor of Iraq in that resolution and the Iraqis returned to their country without achieving their illogical objective. As Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Many Arabic newspapers wrote that Saddam arrived like a peacock and left like a chicken.

[Moderator] Mr Iravani, from the interview you granted upon your return from Moscow, it appears that you have (?acquired) a basketful of credits for the implementation of joint Soviet-Iranian projects, including gas exports. On his return, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani also announced that Iranian gas will provide financing for the projects which will be implemented with Soviet collaboration. Can you give me any further clarification on the financial agreements of the Islamic Republic regarding the joint projects?

[Iravani] We expect that the program of long-term scientific, economic, and cultural cooperation until the year 2000 will include various axes of mutual cooperation, in the fields of energy, industry, including heavy industry, and steel among others. The projects are quite diversified and will be paid for by the sale of Iran's natural gas to the Soviet Union. In fact, we will receive equipment, machinery, and technical services for these projects according to the agreement we have (?reached) in exchange for the gas. All in all, the process of the export of natural gas for the 15 years that we have agreed upon will be (?gradual) in the beginning and will later increase in proportion to increases in the scope of the projects and their progress. The export of gas will create this increase.

In the beginning, it is natural that much work has to be done and it is possible that this will cost $6 billion annually or more. A basket of credit, a line of credit has been drawn up for the two sides and there is a special account especially allocated for the export of gas. It existed in the past as well for the export of gas prior the revolution. We will draw on this special account for equipment and what we owe will be repaid in the form of gas exports.

[Moderator] Mr Velayti, in view of Soviet ties with Arab countries, I wish to know whether anything was mentioned during the talks between Iran and the Soviet Union on the trend for the implementation... [changes thought] for progress in the Iran-Iraq talks?

[Velayati] In order to answer this question, I should describe the improvement of our ties with the Soviet Union or the bolstering of our ties with the Soviet Union in the context of our ties with other countries, whether Arab or non-Arab. We have very close fraternal ties with some arab countries such as Syria and the most important common factor between us and the Arab countries is Islam which is an axis of thought and government in the Islamic Republic.

Therefore we should not think that this improvement is directed against this or that country; it is really only in the interests of the Islamic Republic of Iran. However, the Soviet Union also wishes to serve its own interests and our relations are in fact based on respect, reciprocal rights, and noninterference in one another's internal affairs. As for the effect of the strengthened ties between Iran and the USSR, the Soviet Union is one of the permanent members of the UN Security Council and in fact one of the formulators of UN Resolution 598 and naturally one of its supporters.

It should be one of its supporters, and overt backing by the Soviet Union and its stress on UN Resolution 598 and the UN secretary general's four-point plan will, I think, be of much assistance in the international sphere for the progress of the talks. It will constitute support for the UN secretary general in the implementation of the resolution.

[Moderator] Recently the [words indistinct] adviser to the Kuwaiti cabinet announced that Kuwait desires the full implementation of UN Resolution 598. I would like to ask if this will have any effect on our ties.

[Velayati] Of course, Kuwait has recently been moving to a more friendly position toward the Islamic Republic of Iran as regards its foreign policy. Naturally we respond in a positive manner if we receive any friendly overtures from Kuwait or any other country. Part of Kuwait's stance can be attributed to the recent positive developments in its foreign policy with regard to the Islamic Republic and part of it stems from [words indistinct] Soviet-Iranian ties.

[Moderator] Mr Iravani, as regards the peaceful use of nuclear energy by the two countries, the two countries stressed cooperation. There has been speculation that the Soviet Union is motivated in this regard by Moscow's desire, in the wake of the Chernobyl disaster, to regain its capability on the nuclear issue. Please tell us your assessment of these views and whether the agreements between the two countries include the completion of the Bushehr nuclear power station.

[Iravani] I feel that some introductory remarks are necessary in answering this question. We have economic ties with other countries, but not for specific purposes or with a series of (?specific) countries. First of all, as part of our foreign policy, we must bear in mind the fact that our economic cooperation with other countries is forged in a special form. For example, if we compare the ties we had with other countries before the revolution to those we have had since the revolution, in 1977 85 percent of our trade was with the Western bloc countries, 6 percent with the Eastern bloc, and the rest with the Third World. In 1985, we increased our cooperation with the Eastern bloc countries with the result that it accounted for 10 percent of our trade. Trade with the Third World and Islamic countries reached the 23 percent mark. With the Western bloc countries it was 66 percent, showing a 20 percent reduction.

Therefore, in our economic dealings with foreign countries we are affected by our foreign policy. We try not to become set in our ways, especially since economic ties and issues create their own axes. We keep various matters in mind while formulating our economic policy.

As regards the peaceful use of nuclear energy, 10 or 11 years ago we witnessed an incident similar to Chernobyl at Three-Mile Island in the United States. It did not, however, create such a worldwide clamor. We blame the mass media for blowing it up. We spoke to the USSR on the construction of an independent nuclear station. So far we have not (?requested assistance) for the completion of the nuclear station.

[Moderator] Ostensibly, the director general of the International Atomic Energy Authority [IAEA], who inspected the Bushehr nuclear power station recently, declared that the IAEA was willing to assist in the completion of the power station. Some circles believe that his visit to Tehran was a result of the (?overt) reaction by the West to these agreements. What is your opinion?

[Iravani] As regards the country's reconstruction, the Islamic Republic of Iran does not keep procrastinating in its economic projects by suspending them. It tries to make contacts and muster all possible assistance from various quarters, and it moves ahead. This is the reason for this motivation, and these avenues are sought from among various countries which act to fulfill their commitments...

[Moderator, interrupting] This means that it is a sort of (?rivalry)?

[Iravani] Yes.

[Moderator] Mr Velayati, I have a question about the future of Afghanistan in the aftermath of the Soviet-Iranian agreements. News circles are rife with news of reports of an overall (?coalition). Was any particular trend predicted in this regard for the implementation of such accords?

[Velayati] The Islamic Republic of Iran's stance on the issue of Afghanistan has always been stable and clear and based on principles that we have believed in. We have always tried to steer the parties concerned and those who have influence on the Afghanistan issue in a manner conducive to the benefit of Afghanistan. If you remember, there was a time when Pakistan, the Soviet Union, the United States, and the Kabul government were involved in talks in Geneva. We were repeatedly asked to join in these talks being held under UN auspices. We insisted that we had two problems. One was the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, and the other was that the mujahidin were not participants in these destiny making talks. We did not participate.

Even now our stance is not different from the past. What has been said in the news statements at the end of this visit shows how we are adhering to our principles. We supported an independent Afghanistan with a government based on the wishes of the Muslim people of Afghanistan so that it can have good-neighborly relations with its neighbors on the basis of reciprocal rights. You can observe that there has been no change in our stance since we made our visit to the Soviet Union. We will continue this attitude. For us, the fate of the Muslim Afghan people is very important. We will continue to support the wishes of the Afghan people as before. In this regard we insist that there should be a government which will be acceptable to the majority of the Muslim Afghan people.

[Moderator] Mr Iravani, as regards Soviet-Iranian agreements on Iran's use of the Caspian Sea for access to the free waters of Europe, I wish to know what effect it will have on Iranian foreign trade. Also, in view of this, do our ports in the north have the capacity for the volume of loading needed? Have some other projects or means of communication been envisioned in this regard?

[Iravani] Undoubtedly this has a positive effect. Of course, we are not using the full capacity of our ports now while we have development projects there which have not yet become operational. As far as traffic through the Soviet and European rivers are concerned, the fact is that formerly we did not have commerical activities as such in the Mazandaran [Caspian] Sea. Now, with the creation of a joint shipping line, the Iranian ships will begin sailing and the fleet will be expanded. As far as the fishing vessels are concerned, we will start fishing in the Mazandaran Sea on a larger scale.

The issue is that our contact routes with Europe have now expanded through highways and through the railway which travels through Turkey. This river route can carry both cargo and passengers. It is the first time that the Soviet Union has reached such an agreement with any country. Also, our trucks will travel via Soviet territory—from Astara to [name indistinct] or Novorossisk and then to Europe. If it is via Novorossisk, then they will go Europe directly. Our trucks can also go to Europe on railway wagons. As far as transportation is concerned, this will have a great impact on the reduction of cargo transportation rates. In the eastern area, with the connection of the [name indistinct]-Sarakhs-Mashhad as well as the highway route of this axis, we can send our cargo to the Far East from that axis and also receive our imports from Japan, China, and Korea in a matter of a few days. Economically speaking, this will be extremely advantageous.

[Moderator] Mr Velayati, some analysts assess—on the basis of the grounds covered by the joint Iranian-Soviet communique—that in this way the Russians have been able to achieve their long-lasting wish; that is, access to free waters. This has made the West more sensitive to recent developments in the area. What is your view on this, and how do you assess the future of relations between the West and the Islamic Republic of Iran?

[Velayati] Of course, what some Western analysts say does not necessarily stem from reality or from the fact that their remarks are based on correct principles. It is more a reaction on their part which shows the West's annoyance. What is definite is the determination of the nation and government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to defend the country, the territorial integrity, and the independence of the Islamic Republic of Iran. And this is not a secret. Resisting the imposed war for about 8 years manifested this firm determination. Therefore, such remarks are merely insinuations, or rumors, or—clearly yet—a propaganda plot in order to weaken the positive impact of this visit. Otherwise, who does not know that the Islamic Republic of Iran and the people of this country attach the greatest significance to their independence?

If we want to sum up in one phrase what the Islamic revolution has been able to achieve on the world scene, it is the independence of the Islamic Republic which cannot be exchanged with anything. Also, all forces have been mobilized to safeguard this country's independence. But if we have friendly relations with the Soviet Union, Turkey, Pakistan, or other countries, we use their transit routes and they use our transit routes, as Mr Iravani pointed out. And this is a mutual right of use. If our truck or train passes from Soviet territory, then we can say, for example, that Iran has finally found access to the Baltic Sea. Well, yes, all countries and all parts of the

world have routes, but this route is on the basis of mutual rights and respect and not on the basis of creating domination or establishing an unequal relationship.

[Moderator] Mr Iravani, the joint communique concentrated on the construction of hydroelectric power plants in our country. In view of the fact, however, that the construction of such power plants takes years, have any special short-term programs to meet the country's energy consumption needs been drawn up or not?

[Iravani] As far as short-term activitiees are concerned, we have the program for the completion of the reconstruciton of the Ramin and Martyr Montazeri power plants with the Soviet Union. These should be reconstructed. However, the major part of energy will have to come from new thermal power plants, because the output of the Martyr Montazeri power plant can only be increased up to 800 megawatts and that of the Ramin and Ahvaz power plants to 630 megawatts. As far as the Qiz Qal'esi and Khoda Afarin dams are concerned, Iran's portion is 140 megawatts of electricity, and it has been agreed that we purchase the Soviet portion, which is the same amount of megawatts. Also, the construction of three dams on the Karun river will produce 2,000, 910, and 760 megawatts of energy respectively. Moreover, we can irrigate and cultivate a large part of the land in that area and thus produce the highly effective development of agriculture in the region.

[Moderator] Mr Velayati, on the Iran-Iraq talks, the joint communique stressed the need for the implementation of Resolution 598 and the UN secretary general's four-point plan. The question is: Would it not have been better to refer explicitly to the 1975 [Algiers] agreement as the basis for the solution of the Iran-Iraq border conflict? And, generally speaking, what is the USSR's view on this border problem?

[Velayati] Of course the Soviet Union expressed its stance before this visit through the official spokesman of its Foreign Ministry. In a news conference, Mr Gerasimov stated that the forces of the two sides should withdraw to the international borders which were clarified in the 1975 Algiers agreement. Therefore, the Soviet Union has clarified its stand and has, through its official spokesman, asserted the official nature and credibility of the 1975 agreement. We do not have any problem with that country on this issue.

[Moderator] Mr Iravani, the last question I would like to ask you is: Economically speaking, what general impact can this visit have on the long-term or short-term reconstruction of Iran's economy?

[Iravani] Under the current conditions, when our first development plan is in the Majlis and in the process of approval, we can, in view of the priorities listed in the plan, find our economic partners in the world outside, partners who are politically compatible with us and on whom we can count in the long-term. We should be able to choose partners with great experience in the fields that we want to cooperate with. In view of the extensive and comprehensive nature of the plan, we can say that it will have a considerable impact on the country's economy, because the axes of cooperation have already been chosen in the plan.

[Moderator] Mr Iravani, I just remembered a point, and that is that in view of the talk about the export of Iranian gas to the Soviet Union, the allegation now is that the export of such a volume of gas will put pressure on our gas resources and will in turn have an impact on domestic consumption. How do you assess this view?

[Iravani] Our current daily gas output is 31 million cubic meters a day. With the use of the Kangan gas refinery, we will gradually have an increase of 34 million cubic meters of gas per day added to our output. After 2 years, with the implementation of the second phase of the Kangan gas project, our production will reach 84 million cubic meters per day. Therefore, we can continue the gas distribution development plans without harming anything. An annual 3 billion cubic meters of gas, which is the volume of our gas exports to the Soviet Union, is not only possible but also, as far as the transit of gas is concerned, something on which we have gained the agreement of the other side in our cooperation programs. We can have from 2 to 2.5 billion cubic meters of gas exports a year. I should point out that we have 14 percent of the world's gas resources and rank second in the world. This is in addition to the resources that have been recently discovered. With our current exploitation we can have gas for the next 645 years, while the Soviet Union, which ranks first in gas resources, can last 56 more years. The United States, which ranks fourth, will last for another 11 years. Therefore, in the gas industry we have much room for expansion, and one of the important focuses of our 5-year plan is the expansion of this industry with [word indistinct] use.

[Moderator] I thank you for participating in this program. Dear viewers, we end tonight's program and bid you farewell until our next program. God bless you.

Further Reportage on Visit to USSR Aftermath

Military Agreement Viewed

JN2706152189 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 25 Jun 89 pp 1, 21

[Excerpt] Moscow—From 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Khashshan and news agencies—Arab and Soviet sources have disclosed to AL-ITTIHAD that Moscow and Tehran last week initialled a military agreement according to which Moscow will supply Tehran with about 100 advanced tanks of those recently withdrawn from the GDR and the CSSR. Moscow also put the irreversible termination of the Iraq-Iran conflict as a condition for supplying Iran with advanced aircraft.

The sources said that during Iranian Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit to Moscow, the two sides agreed to provide Tehran with some other modern military equipment, including a number of warships and the construction of an advanced radar network. They also agreed to train Iranian military cadres in the Soviet military academies.

The sources said it is not likely that the Soviet Union will provide Iran with MiG-29 aircraft, but it is possible for Iran to obtain advanced Soviet planes provided that it agrees to an irreversible end to its dispute with Iraq.

The sources added that Moscow informed Iraq about this and obtained its approval during the recent visit to Baghdad by Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations.

The sources told AL-ITTIHAD that the Soviet Union and Iran agreed to change the text of the agreement signed between the two countries during the Bolshevik revolution, and which gave Moscow the right to send its military forces to Iran if it felt any danger and without consulting the Iranian side. The new agreement is called a "friendship and cooperation treaty" and is parallel to the Soviet-Iraqi treaty. [passage omitted]

Paper Praises Gorbachev

LD2906171289 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 29, IRNA—The political bankruptcy in Washington in contrast to the rising star of Mikhail Gorbachev were vividly described by an English daily today.

Never gloat over an adversary, warned KEYHAN INTERNATIONAL, and said with the coming to power of a "dynamic and visionary leader" at the Kremlin, tables are turning on the United States.

In fact time has proved, it said "the American political establishment is simply not psychologically, intellectually and spiritually equipped to deal with the new breeze blowing from Moscow. Without the Soviet 'enemy' Washington has suddenly found itself stripped of a good deal of its political identity."

If George Bush was reduced to practicing "witlessness as a foreign policy," KEYHAN was quick to note the brilliant political foresight of the late leader of the Islamic revolution towards Gorbachev's boldness to review the decadent Marxist system.

"Without ever having laid eyes on the man, the imam (Khomeyni) changed the course of Iran-Soviet relations by sending his only ever envoy to a foreign leader and congratulated him on his courageous reforms," it said on the January 4 message to the Soviet chief.

What followed was speaker Hoj. Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's landmark visit to Moscow last week which has further proved to the world the acute stagnancy of U.S. policy-makers.

As KEYHAN put it "now the Americans are grousing about 'Soviet opportunism,' scratching their heads in confusion and repeating the inanity that ties with Tehran will remain in abeyance because of nine men held in a third country."

It is another thing if the Western media shies away from admitting that the 'hostage crisis' was the result of the U.S. supported 1982 Zionist invasion of Lebanon which led to the killing of over 25,000 Lebanese and Palestinian civilians, but in the words of the daily "this same Washington never once forwarded a decent apology for the slaughter of 250 Iranians in the flight 655 carnage of a year ago."

Moreover, does not America continue to label as 'terrorist' Islamic Iran and certain other states—e.g. Nicaragua, where it is responsible for the death of 120,000 people over the last decade—when the bare facts point out that it is Washington which practices state terrorism.

"Strange expectations indeed," said the daily.

Commentary on U.S. Reaction

LD2606124889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Various reactions were displayed in the European capitals to the visit paid by the Islamic Republic of Iran's high-ranking delegation, headed by Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and acting commander in chief of the Armed Forces, to the Soviet Union. In this regard, the U.S. Government has displayed an irresponsible response in connection with this visit, as shown by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, in a speech delivered to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, when he elaborated on the stance adopted by Washington.

Two significant points are worthy of analysis and assessment in the U.S. secretary of state's rhetoric. First, that the U.S. Government is still pursuing its previous policy vis-a-vis the Islamic Revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran. The principle axis of this belligerant policy is in fact aimed at blockading the Islamic revolution, and restricting the capabilities and the maneuvering ability of Iran in the international arena.

As we have hitherto witnessed, from the onset of the Islamic revolution's victory, until the present day, a multitude of political, economic, and military levers have been deployed in the course of the long-term U.S. policy vis-a-vis Iran. The imposition of Iraq's war against Iran; the economic blockade; the U.S. military

presence in the Persian Gulf; and the efforts aimed at isolating Iran in the international arena are examples of such levers. This is at a time when even the analysts and politicians from Western governments are emphatic on the failure of such methods. Moreover, as from the period marking the end of the imposed war, and with the arrival of the reconstruction era, some Western capitals, and Washington having adhered to those same unrealistic aims, have been trying to exploit the opportunities created. The United States, through the imposition of its belligerent policies vis-a-vis the Islamic Republic, is trying to prevent other countries from expanding and strengthening ties with Islamic Iran. It is for this very reason that a U.S. official has said that all sides should exercise caution in their dealings with Iran. However, it is clear that the term caution, as interpreted by the U.S. Government, is more related to that country's belligerent aims and policies vis-a-vis Iran. Another important point pertaining to the recent remarks made by the U.S. secretary of state is that country's interference in the internal and foreign affairs of independent countries at a time when all countries in the international community are enjoying equal and accepted liberties in the compilation and implementation of the principles of their domestic and foreign policies. Such threats, activities, or the negative propaganda disseminated by foreigners against the independent policy of Iran, coupled with the safeguarding of its moral and Islamic aspirations, will have no effect.

FRG Firm Aided Sale of Chemicals for Weapons

LD2706130989 Hamburg DPA in German 1238 GMT 27 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Bonn (DPA)—According to the U.S. Administration, an FRG firm arranged the sale of "significant amounts of chemicals" to Iran. It was suspected that this material would be used for the production of chemicals weapons in Iran, the LOS ANGELES TIMES reported. In response to an inquiry, the Federal Economics Ministry in Bonn confirmed on Tuesday that the Foreign Ministry had received more concrete information from Washington about an illegal transfer deal involving chemicals that could be used for chemical weapons.

Reliable sources said that an Iranian diplomat was withdrawn from Iran's Embassy at the federal government's request because of the deal. The diplomat had acted as an embassy attache since 1987. The name mentioned by the LOS ANGELES TIMES, "Kharim 'Ali Sobhani," was correct. [passage omitted]

Manufacturing Plans Denied

LD3006093489 Tehran IRNA in English 0905 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 30, IRNA—A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry Thursday categorically denied reports on Iran's intention to purchase chemical materials for manufacture of chemical weapons.

The spokesman said the claims, originated by U.S. officials and media and trumpeted by European mass media, were "false, biased and followed particular political and propaganda goals."

He also strongly denied rumours that an Iranian diplomat had been summoned by the Bonn government in connection with the charges, and said the diplomat's mission had ended more than a month ago and he had returned to Tehran.

Referring to Washington's close and old cooperation with Baghdad as well as the role certain European states played in supplying chemical weapons to Iraq, and especially taking into regard the new U.S. policy to approach the Baghdad regime, he said such rumours were in line with Washington's open hostility towards the Islamic Republic.

They also aimed at deviating the world public opinion from the Iraqi regime's brutal crimes in chemically bombarding its own Kurdish population as well as its recent efforts to evict Iraqi Kurds from their homeland, the spokesman said.

In March 1988, the Iraqi regime massacred over 5,000 Kurdish inhabitants and maimed a similar number in the town of Halabjah, by using chemical weapons. The tragedy was described as the most horrid crime of the century.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Delivers Friday Prayers

LD3006123189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] The mournful ummah of Islam today participated in the Friday prayers throughout the country. As well as chanting mournful songs for the demise of the great leader of the Islamic revolution they held the immortal Mohammadan rites.

Tehran University and the adjacent streets, meanwhile, today witnessed the presence of the Muslim people who, having mourned the demise of His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may he be close to God, then held the religious-political Friday prayers under the leadership of Hojjat-ol Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

In the second sermon of the prayers, Hojjat-ol Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani thanked the Iranian people and world Muslims for their participation in mourning the demise of the imam of ummah, the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, may he be close to God. He also thanked them for their allegiance to the new leader of the Islamic revolution, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i. He said that such unity among the people in obedience to the leadership stems from divine blessings. It is among the great events of history.

Referring to the fact that all assessments at home and abroad assumed that after the demise of Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, the regime would encounter difficulties because of a lack of leadership, he said: Our enemies, made an inadequate analysis of our society, pinned their hopes on that, and yet what happened was quite the opposite. That was one of the blessings of God. That came about because of the guidance provided by His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may he be close to God, who in an invisible manner charted the future of the country through perception and foresight.

Such unity and unanimity could be seen not only in Iran but also in other countries.

Hojjat-ol Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: Reports from all over the world and information from outside Iran indicated that mourning for the tragic demise of the great leader of the Islamic revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and obedience to His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the leader of the Islamic revolution, was impressive in all countries and regions such as Pakistan, Kashmir, India, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, the south of the Persian Gulf, Morocco, and Baku. They, too, chanted the slogan: Obedience to Khamene'i amounts to obedience to the imam. And they asked us to choose a title for the new leadership which could embrace all the Muslim societies of the world. These movements proved that the Muslims of the world are interested in and supporters of the Islamic revolution.

Then the Majlis speaker explained the results of his visit to the Soviet Union. He said: Our relationship with the Soviet Union is very important for us, for the USSR, for the region and for the world. Such a relationship is unprecedented in the history of Iran and the USSR. And it was the USSR which paved the way for such a relationship.

Stressing the point that during the early days of the revolution it was not possible to have such a relationship with the USSR because of its policy with its neighbors, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: By changing their policy, that is, by withdrawing from Afghanistan, and weakening their support for leftist currents in Iran, the changes in the leftist view of the world, the exposure of international Marxism as an empty ideology, leaving the people to observe their religious duties, and loss of concessions which they had previously obtained, the Soviet leadership brought about the necessary ground for such a relationship.

Referring to the point that, fortunately, the foundations for the relationship were prepared in the time of the imam, the Majlis speaker said that the path was opened by his eminence the imam and that we are followers. He then said: This is a very important point; if the two countries maintain relations as two truly free countries, if they maintain relations with no undue demands and with no ill intentions, then the region could witness security in whose shade we could obstruct many plundering interests. That is why the Westerners have taken so great fright.

He said that the program for relations has been drafted until the year 2000 and that generalities have been signed. He then explained the agreements which Iran and the USSR signed, saying: The agreements we have signed with the USSR include those for oil exploitation in the Caspian Sea, shipping in the Caspian Sea, and that sea's water-level and environment. The Caspian Sea provides ample income for the two countries; we have vast resources, the Soviets have vast capabilities. Also, through cooperation with the USSR we can prevent the waters of the frontier rivers from going to waste. We have also signed an agreement on the construction of dams. If we manage to harness the ample waters which we possess and if we manage to utilize the electricity thus generated we would be able to guarantee the country's energy supply.

Continuing, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: The construction of railways is also one of the most important agreements—it is important for us from the commercial point of view. Agreements have been made in the field of steel, expansion of the Esfahan steel mill, power stations, and other industries.

He added: It has been decided that the Provinces of Khorasan, Gilan, Mazanderan, and East and West Azerbaijan can have commercial exchanges with that country. That is a good development for the livelihood of the people as well as ties between Muslims of the two countries.

At the end of his sermons Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Through the Imam's foresight and the Soviet leadership's correct efforts to prepare the ground, we stand on the threshold of conditions which could be very fruitful for the future of the country on the eve of the construction decade.

At the Tehran Friday prayers ceremony the Majlis speaker also praised the efforts and services of the 28 June 1983 martyrs.

Expanded Labor Camp Scheme for Addicts Slated

LD2906182189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] The provisional project for engaging drug addicts in labor camps was reviewed at today's antidrug headquarters meeting headed by Prime Minister Musavi and it was assessed as successful. Presently there are 170 addicts working in this provisional project, constructing and repairing border posts. They have made good progress after 55 days of rehabilitation and work.

In this meeting it was decided that this project, which was suggested and approved by the people and implemented by the headquarters, and which has passed the initial provisional tests, be implemented in various regions from 23 July 1989. All addicts who are arrested from that date will be dispatched to labor camps.

Pakistan

Defense Minister: Agni Missile Threat to Security

BK2906155489 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Excerpt] The minister of state for defense, Retired Colonel Ghulam Sarwar Cheema, told the National Assembly during question hour today that India's recent experimental flight of the medium-range missile Agni constitutes a threat to the security of Pakistan. He said that the Agni missile is capable of carrying either conventional or nuclear weapons. Saying that the government is fully aware of this issue, the minister made it clear that the most efficient form of defense against the threat of such a missile are radar systems to detect the missile and an antimissile system. These two systems are very expensive and their acquisition is almost impossible. Under these circumstances, the best course is the acquisition of missiles with a similar offensive capabilities and in this connection Pakistan has already successfully test fired Hatf-1 and Hatf-2. [passage omitted]

Hikmatyar To Release Soviet POW's

BK2906134889 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] The foreign minister of the Interim Government in Afghanistan, Mr Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, has assured the delegation of Soviet mothers that all possible steps will be taken to repatriate Soviet prisoners of war in safety and honor, providing a formal and comprehensive agreement in this regard is reached with the Soviet Union. He said this in an interview with AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY today, after an hour-long meeting with the delegation.

Mr Hikmatyar told Soviet mothers that Soviet prisoners of war were in safe hands and would be treated as guests in accordance with the teachings of Islam. He said that 40,000 Afghan people were also missing, which were either in the prisons of the Kabul regime or kept at unknown places.

Paper Welcomes U.S.-USSR Talks on Afghanistan

BK2806115789 Rawalpindi HAIDER in Urdu 18 Jun 89 p 3

[Editorial: "U.S. - USSR talks on the Afghanistan Issue"]

[Text] There is good news about the direct talks between the United States and the Soviet Union on the Afghanistan issue. An announcement by the U.S. State Department says high-level talks between the two countries on the Afghanistan dispute will begin in July. According to the spokesman, the aim of resuming talks with the Soviet Union is to remove any doubts among the mujahidin that there is a secret accord between the two countries on Afghanistan. It is noteworthy that along with the U.S. announcement about talks with the Soviet Union, the UN Secretary General's special representatives on Afghanistan have also left to visit Pakistan and Afghanistan and thus the UN is also intensifying its efforts to solve the issue.

The talks between the two superpowers on the Afghanistan issue have been deadlocked for the past 18 months. Our view is that a key reason for the deadlock was that the United States believed that after the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, the mujahidin would occupy the country. Although the occupation by the mujahidin of the whole of Afghanistan did not come about, U.S. intellectuals and experts on Afghanistan had the strong feeling that a sizable portion of that country would fall to the mujahidin and therefore there was no need for talks with the Soviet Union at all. However, the U.S. experts ignored the fact that it is more difficult to persuade the Afghans fight against the Afghan army than it is to get them to engage in a war with the Soviet forces in the name of Islam. Hence, as expected, the Afghan mujahidin have not exhibited extraordinary enthusiasm in confronting their own compatriots and relatives in the Afghan army, as a result of which their "struggle", which still finds a place in the mass media, has proved extremely ineffective. This can be understood from the fact that despite innumerable claims of victory, a safe corner could not be secured in Afghanistan for the Afghan interim government. This weakness of the Afghan mujahidin has seriously embarassed their major patron, the United States.

Although the stand announced by the newly elected government in Pakistan on "political steps" to solve the Afghanistan issue has somewhat helped the United States, the U.S. State Department has suggested, just before the start of the talks with the Soviet Union, that the talks are going to be held only to remove any doubts among the mujahidin that the superpowers may have compromised on their rights. Instead of offering this kind of unrealistic justification, the United States should have accepted the fact that after the failure of the mujahidin, the solution to the Afghanistan dispute lies in no other quarter than talks with the Soviet Union. However, instead of adopting this kind of realistic position, the United States has invented an unsound and ridiculous justification. However, irrespective of the justification or background, the U.S. initiative toward talks with the Soviet Union is a significant and historic step. Had the United States adopted the same position some time ago, the situation in Afghanistan would by now have been very different and this issue would have been almost solved.

As the saying goes: 'Better late than never.' The reported direct talks between the United States and the Soviet Union on the Afghanistan issue lead us to hope that

factors for a settlement of the dispute have started to appear, and there is every possibility that the current year will see the formation of a broad-based government and the ending of hostilities in Afghanistan.

The readiness for these talks by the two superpowers is clear evidence they accept the fact that despite supplying arms and providing extraordinary military assistance to their allies they have been unable to settle the dispute one way or another. This dispute can only be settled through political negotiations. The formula of attaining success through military power has proved useless and the philosophy of solving problems by political negotiations has won. As these talks are going to be held directly between the two superpowers, there is no fear of any delay or impediment to their success. However, it is essential to decide on certain issues before the commencement of these talks. For instance, what will be the predominant topic of these talks? To what extent will the viewpoints of mujahidin be given weight? And to what extent will Pakistan's interests will be considered? Regarding the U.S.-USSR talks, doubts may become stronger in certain quarters that the two superpowers, who dreamed in vain of dividing Afghanistan through power, will have their dreams fulfilled at the negotiating table. To eradicate all these doubts and suspicions, it is essential to take all the parties of the dispute into confidence as regards the agenda of the meeting. Clearly the Soviet Union is an important party in this dispute, but the United States is not, and Pakistan, Iran, and the Afghan mujahidin as active affected parties to this dispute should have their interests kept in view.

India Assailed for Not Withdrawing From Sri Lanka

BK3006045789 Karachi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 21 Jun 89 p 10, 11

[Editorial Note: "Sri Lanka—Rajiv's Intransigence"]

[Text] According to reports, the Sri Lankan people, who have been demonstrating against the presence of Indian forces on the island, have now started killing the Indian troops there. In an ambush on Sunday [18 June], the Tamil separatists killed 18 Indian soldiers in broad daylight. The international news media have reported on more than one occasion that India has been patronizing and supporting the activities which the Tamil separatists have been carrying out for a long time now. In order to increase its influence in Sri Lanka and then to establish its hegemony over this independent and sovereign nation, India first encouraged Tamils—gave them weapons and military training—and then offered its services for establishing peace and tranquillity in Sri Lanka. In fact, India worked to create a situation in Sri Lanka, which forced Colombo to sign an accord with it.

There has been no marked improvement in the Sri Lankan situation since the intervention of Indian troops 2 years ago. The Indian troops are still present on the island, posing a threat to the people and the sovereignty of Sri Lanka.

Recently, the newly elected Sri Lankan president, Premadasa—who as the prime minister of his country had opposed the India-Sri Lanka accord even at the time of the Indian forces' intervention—has called for the withdrawal of the Indian troops, because he cannot ignore the constant demand of his people for the Indian troops' pullout. But, Rajiv Gandhi has rejected his demand, saying that the troops will not go back unless the two countries agree on an acceptable time frame for their withdrawal. The attitude of the Indian authorities in this regard is totally intransigent. New Delhi admits that the Sri Lankan Government had invited Indian troops into the island at its own discretion; and now when the new Colombo government is asking the Indian forces to withdraw, they must pull out voluntarily from that country without any delay.

But, Rajiv Gandhi's statements indicate that India does not at all intend to withdraw its troops from Sri Lanka in order to fulfill its expansionist ambitions. The Tamil Tigers have also threatened to turn Sri Lanka into a graveyard for Indian troops. If the people's protest continues, it will increase problems for the new Colombo government, which the Indian rulers probably intend to do.

International public opinion should take note of India's intransigence and pressure New Delhi to withdraw its troops from an independent and sovereign nation without any delay.

Apart from the Sinhalese, the Muslims of Sri Lanka are also becoming victims of the tyrannical acts of Tamils and the Indian forces. Therefore, Pakistan and other Muslim countries should not remain silent at least on the atrocities being committed against Sri Lankan Muslims.

Minister Explains Export-Oriented Trade Policy

BK3006090389 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] The federal commerce minister, Syed Faisal Saleh Hayat, has said the new trade policy envisages more role for the private sector, diversification of export structure, promotion of export of nontraditional items, and making the country a modern manufacturing nation. Addressing a news conference in Islamabad today, he said the new policy has been prepared keeping in view recommendations of various trade bodies and the manifesto of the People's Party to improve the economic structure of the country.

The federal minister said duty free import of machinery has been allowed to encourage manufacture of goods and pre-shipment bank credits would be increased by about 50 percent.

Answering a question, he hoped that the imports would decline by 2.8 percent in the next year because of falling prices of edible oil and meeting demands of certain other items indigenously. The country would not be importing wheat this year, thus saving sufficient foreign exchange.

Sri Lanka

U.S., Israel Deny 'Instigating' Against Tamils

BK3006055689 Hong Kong AFP in English 0546 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Colombo, June 30 (AFP)—The United States and Israel have denied a charge by a Sri Lankan Tamil group that the Colombo government was instigating their forces to annihilate Tamils in the island.

U.S. Embassy Charge d'Affaires Edward Marks said in a statement published in the local press Friday [30 June] that the allegation was "baseless and nonsense." Israeli Interests Section head Chaim Dayan branded the charge "complete nonsense."

Their denials were in response to a statement by the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), a former Tamil rebel group in control of Sri Lanka's Northeastern Province, quoted by India's state-run All India Radio Thursday.

EPRLF general secretary K. Pathmanabha said that the military attache of the U.S Embassy, accompanied by an Israeli military officer had visited an army camp in the island's eastern Trincomalee district.

"The EPRLF feels that the Sri Lankan Government is instigating the American and Israeli forces to annihilate the Tamils in the North and East," he said.

"Such reports are nonsense. Our military attache maintains a range of contacts with officials here and these are open and normal," Mr. Marks said.

Mr. Dayan said the Israeli Interests Section did not have a military officer attached to it.

The pro-Indian EPRLF had earlier called for the withdrawal of the Sri Lankan security forces from the Tamil-populated North and East after President Ranasinghe Premadasa demanded the pullout of Indian troops from the region.

The EPRLF is also opposed to the current peace dialogue between the government and the leading Tamil separatist group, Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

The EPRLF view the talks with suspicion as it feels that a settlement between the government and the LTTE, their rivals, would lead to the removal of their provincial government.

The LTTE had repudiated a July 1987 peace agreement between New Delhi and Colombo which sought to end a prolonged ethnic conflict in the island, and has been carrying on a bloody bush war against some 45,000 Indian troops stationed in the North and East under the pact.

Radio Reports Denial

BK3006120389 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] The U.S. Embassy in Colombo and the Israeli interests section have dismissed as nonsense an EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Force] allegation beamed on All-India Radio that the Sri Lankan Government was trying to instigate American and Israeli forces to annihilate the Tamil people in the North and East. All India Radio quoted EPRLF General Secretary Padmanabha as saying that the military attache in the U.S. Embassy in Colombo had gone to the Trincomalee army camp accompanied by a military officer of the Israeli interests section and that the EPRLF feels that the Sri Lanka Government is instigating American and Israeli forces to annihilate the Tamil people in the North and East.

[Words indistinct] Marks, charge d'affaires of the U.S. Embassy said that the allegation was baseless and nonsense. Chaim Dayan of the Israeli interests section said it was complete nonsense. Our military attache maintains a range of contacts with the officials here and these are open and normal, Mr Marks said. Mr Dayan pointed out that the Israeli interests section did not even have a military officer attached to it.

Premadasa Asks Indians To Halt Drive Against LTTE

BK2906123089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1227 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Colombo, June 29 (AFP)—Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa has asked Indian troops stationed in his country to halt military action against the dominant Tamil separatist group, a government statement here said Thursday.

"The president has requested Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to ensure that the IPKF (Indian Peace Keeping Force) does not take any offensive action against the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam)," the statement said.

It was released after continuing talks with the LTTE, the most powerful Tamil militant group, and a day after the Tiger rebels announced their ending a 17-year-old guerrilla campaign against the Colombo government.

Gandhi Asked To Restrain IPKF

BK3006114889 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] President Premadasa has requested the Indian prime minister to ensure that the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] does not take any offensive action against the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam]. According to an official communique, the ministerial delegation holding talks with the LTTE also said that the government has decided to cease hostilities against the LTTE.

The communique further said that at the talks yesterday, the LTTE said that its decision to transform a cease-fire into a cessation of hostilities against the Government of Sri Lanka was motivated by the desire to find a political settlement to the ethnic problem. The LTTE was confident that all outstanding issues could be resolved through negotiations and discussions. They said that they were convinced that at this hour all communities and sections should sink their differences and strengthen the hands of the president in his efforts to secure the early withdrawal of the IPKF.

The LTTE also drew the attention of the government to mass forced conscription that is taking place in the north and the east. This is an attempt to build a new military force in the Northern and Eastern Provinces to obstruct and deny solutions that would be reached by discussions and negotiations among the various communities and groups. They said that young school boys were fleeing from their homes and hundreds have already assembled in Colombo to avoid the forced abduction and military training. They explained that those who have reached Colombo are undergoing untoward hardship without proper accommodation or food and that the government should consider the possibility of providing them some relief.

The ministerial delegation stressed that a climate has now been created for all communities and sections to find a solution to problems that have disturbed the ethnic harmony of Sri Lanka for so many years through a process of consultation, compromise and consensus. It added that the question of forced conscription and the serious problem it has created were being examined by the government and appropriate action will be taken.

The ministerial delegation comprised Shahul Hameed, Festus Perera, A.R. Mansoor, and U.B. Wijekoon. The LTTE delegation was represented by A.S. Balasingham, Parama Moorthi, Yogaratnam Yogi, Lawrence Tilagar, Samund Hassan, (Shivaniana Kalikalan), Panchachalam Lawrence, and Abu Bakar Ibrahim. The talks are continuing.

20 LTTE Cadres Killed

BK3006102689 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0928 GMT 30 Jun 89

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, June 30 (LANKAPUVATH)—The IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] is reported to have killed 10 LTTE cadres and captured 27 others in northern and eastern Sri Lanka, yesterday.

IPKF reports monitored by LANKAPUVATH state that its troops seized 230 kilogrammes of explosives, 6,100 detonators and 2 locally made guns.

The IPKF also claims that in an exchange of fire with the LTTE, in Batticaloa, yesterday, the troops killed two LTTE members, while in a separate incident at Mawila, also in Batticaloa, three other LTTE cadres were killed and one wounded.

Four LTTE members were reported killed and four others wounded in an encounter with the IPKF in the jungles of Vavuniya, in northern Sri Lanka, yesterday.

Another LTTE member was shot dead by an IPKF patrol at Puloly South, Jaffna, yesterday.